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THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING.

The Clergy on Living Topics.

Conservative Tone of the Pulpit.

THE DAY AND ITS INCIDENTS.

The Festival of Thanksgiving, as transmitted to us from our New-England fathers, had no more valuable feature than the permission it granted the town ministers of delivering the results of the twelve months' private reflections upon topics aside from the beaten track. The pulpit, usually silent upon political questions, and confining itself to matters of strictly spiritual concern, then sets more directly upon the world and its opinions; and for this reason perhaps it is, that the Thanksgiving sermon is listened to with more interest than is accorded to the usual Sunday service. Imbuing this preference, we present a comprehensive digest of the discourses delivered yesterday in New-York and Brooklyn by prominent clergymen of both cities.

THE DUTY OF MODERATION.

REV. GEORGE POTTS, D. D.

UNIVERSITY-PLACE CHURCH.

Psalm cxxvii. 1: "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh in vain."

One cannot feel gratitude for good things, if they have come by accident. Gratitude supposes an intelligent benefactor, and recognizes a design upon his part to be or a favor. We must be able to perceive an intention. Chance has no intelligence, therefore no intention, and if our blessings come by chance, we may be pleased with the blessings—but there is an end of it—it would be absurd to talk of being thankful. Thankful to what? Thankful to whom?

It is a glorious faith which relieves us of all doubt as to the fact that there is an intelligent benefactor who governs us and cares by design—employing indeed a variety of instrumental laws and agents—but still with his eye upon us, and governing them by a purpose. To-day, gathered together to give thanks for the goodness of the year, we must entirely fail of our professed object if we do not thoroughly admit the supreme will of God, as the source of our mercies. Furthermore, thankfulness in this sense of the word, chiefly carries with it the feeling of dependence on a benefactor. Just that not merely a dependence on his justice, for, properly speaking, we cannot be thankful for what is due to us—what we have a right to claim. Among men, indeed, where justice is a mere quality, we may be said to be thankful to get our just dues; but not properly speaking. The feeling of gratitude implies the bestowment of benefits that could not be claimed, and which we owe to the mere good-will of the giver. We feel dependent on that good will. For their creation and their lofty endowments, and their consequent boundless happiness, angels are bound to be thankful to the Author of it all, because everything they have came from His hand. In everything—in His justice and truth and benevolence—they see cause for adoring gratitude for having made them with such capacities, and for securing to them the means of enjoyment. But how is it with us? Is our gratitude of this angelic character? Must there not be something superadded to the simple feeling of dependence? Yes. We have lost a high estate; we have fallen under merited displeasure; and if we were treated as we deserve, we should simply suffer, and not at all enjoy; our very existence would be a curse. When, therefore, any of this we receive favors which minister to our natural craving for happiness, we are inclined, I think, at all, to recognize something more than the general benevolence of God as the cause. It is pity, it is forbearance, and mercy, that we are forced to think of. An angel needs no pity, no forbearance or mercy; but we do; our whole revolted world lies under the curse of rebellion, and would be at once turned into a hell but for the forbearing and merciful purposes of God. As it is, the life we lead (and this is true of all the generations before us) is a chastened life, in which evil and good intermingle. Take the material part of it—the natural world, as we say—and it is full of agencies ministering to the support and comfort of man, and other agencies which cause his suffering and death. Do the green fields and the running waters and balmy air, the towering mountains and the lovely valley and bountiful fields and trees speak of the love which animates their Maker? What shall we say of the pestilence and earthquake, and blighted harvests which come to turn the smiles into tears? This varied experience tells of some radical cause. It is the capital mistake to suppose that man deserves it for some reason. And when we look at man, we need go no further to find an explanation. We shall see him creating, by his own conduct, innumerable evils which are their own scourge—producing far the larger part of the woes which mar his happiness. In short, he has become obnoxious to the curse due to disobedience—and whatever happiness he still retains is not the bestowment of the justice, but the mere benevolent forbearance of God; and for his enjoyments of every legitimate sort, he is a dependent upon mercy; and his gratitude, therefore, must recognize this fact. Every blessing ought to be received with the humble heart of a penitent. It ought to be traced to the unmerited favor of the great Being who has initiated that plan of restoration which began in the gift of a Saviour, and which proposes to lead him up from the depths of evil, and by mingled mercies and chastisements restore him to the original purity from which he fell.

Such, my dear friends, is, in brief, the Christian theory of Thanksgiving. It is well to refresh our minds with the great truths which enter into that part of our experience, which ought to form so large a share of our daily gratitude to God for all that he is Providence and Grace arranges for us, with the express design of benefiting us here, and still more hereafter. Gratitude for all, even for the severe. Except upon the theory that we are fallen and guilty creatures, placed now under a process of spiritual restoration—I, for one, am free to say, that the mysteries of this complex condition of good and evil, are altogether and absolutely baffling. I give up the solution of the problem of life, in despair, until I accept this solution. But with this solution, that God is working a cure of our depravity through his infinitely wonderful mediatorial government, I see how it is possible gratefully "to sing both of *mercy* and of *judgment*." I see how judgments keep alive the necessary and salutary impression of the divine hatred of *sin*, and how mercies impress our hearts with the divine pity and yearning toward the *sinner*.

And now after this brief rehearsal of the first truths which belong to the duty of Thanksgiving, I ask you to see in them the reason why there must needs run through every song of thanksgiving an undertone of sadness; and why, if *never has been*, nor can be; still we are here, in this world, our text addresses you without the supposition that the general joy cannot be altogether drowned in the sighs and rails of individual distresses. The frivolous only can lose sight of this *mingler of the dark with the bright threads in the history* of any single year.

And yet, it is very true that there never was an individual nor a banded body of individuals—a family—a congregation—a city—a nation—which had not, all things considered, more cause to sing of mercy than of judgment. To affirm this, may seem a paradoxical contradiction of notorious facts. Families smitten, communities visited with pestilence, earthquake, conflagration, internal strifes and devastating wars—are there not instances enough of this sort to make us qualify the assertion just made—that mankind has had more reason to sing of mercy than of judgment? Let me justify the assertion by asking you whether you ever knew a case of trouble and sorrow so great that you could not easily see how it could be still further scattered by aggravations? Is grief so deep, that it might not be made deeper? I have never known such a case. But my convictions, I admit, are formed from taking into view the great, the obvious, the Scriptural views of the guilty state of man. I believe that not a day, not an hour passes, much less a year, in which every nation, and every individual in every nation—ourselves who are here included—does not commit offences enough against God to warrant *Justice in sweeping us from the face* of the earth, and consigning us to a hopeless condition. Measure any single life, for any single day, *and ask whether its forgetfulness of Him who ought* to be supreme, its insulting preferences for its own will, its own ways, its unbelief, its ingratitude for God's mercies—especially His crowning mercy, Christianity—its insensibility to the motives which ought to govern an immortal and accountable creature, would not justify the severity which exacts that it should be left to itself, and *given over to the re*wards of sin. I ask you these questions—Oh, Christian believer—you, who have looked most deeply into the rights of God, as a just and a forbearing God—you, who see how much you daily fall short of what *you owe him. You will be ready to admit the fact*, that were your daily life measured by your merits, you would not be here to receive so many mercies which serve to make life not only tolerable, but enjoyable.

And if these lines of human demerit, as affording a ground for the duty of thanksgiving, even under the most painful conditions, be true of the individual, how much more obvious is their truth when applied to communities? Consider how full of wicked misbeliefs every nation is—what numerous instances of defiance of God's law in all its forms occur—what hydra-headed licentiousness, fraud, injustice, rapacity, oppression and such like are to be found out of Christendom and in Christendom—and then say if national judgments are to be wondered at. Say rather whether national *mercies* are not truly wonderful tokens of the Divine forbearance, and to be received with a more sensitive gratitude from the fact that they are so undeserved?

It is very in the light of these truths that we can feel the force of the doctrine so largely taught in the Word of God, that the safety and the blessings of every individual, and of every association of individuals, are due to the benevolent and forbearing exercise of God's own power and wisdom. "Except the Lord build the house the labor is in vain," &c. When we look at the pitiable mistakes and the base selfishness which have more or less mingled with every effort which men have made to take care of themselves, and manage human affairs; when we see how short a distance the best of human wisdom and integrity can go, in counteracting the stupid imbecilities, the blundering passions, the wicked malevolence of the human agencies—who can help admitting that the very existence, not to say the well-being of society, and the individual, is ascribable to causes out of themselves—causes which they have done their best to defeat, and which are made to do them good in spite of them. Thus we see often that the folly and wickedness of men are made to act as medicines to keep in check or to cure the peccant humors of the system, which produce the outbreak of social diseases. After one of these attacks, society goes on for a while with more care, until, as with a silly patient, an interval of ease makes men forget their past experience, and leads them to the same courses which brought them to death's door. Look at the fluctuations of society during any fifty years, and many more, and there are the fruits, not of any deficiency in the bounties of God's Providence, or the abundance of Divine instructions, or the largeness of opportunity, but of the intemperate, blind, presumptuous neglect or abuse of both God's bounties and God's teachings. For example: Commerce flourishes, health and the fruits of the earth abound, a rich territory teems with means of happiness, freedom of speech and action is unrestricted, and what do men do with them? I am sorry to be obliged to say that, with few exceptions, they abuse them—and in so doing, they not only insult the goodness of God, but bring down heavy mischief upon their own heads. The worst lives they suffer are of their own making. Their commerce becomes criminal in its object and method, and breeds social vices, evil fashions, extravagances, reckless ventures, and finally collapses, in which, by an inevitable necessity, the innocent suffer with the guilty. This is but one illustration of many that may be given of the self-created evils, which by the very nature of things, become scourges of men for their ungodly abuse of the blessings of God.

I put the incapacity of men to take care of themselves, and the necessity of the kind, constant and undeserved interposition of God's wisdom, God's power, God's goodness—are in nothing more visible and humiliating to human pride, than in their mismanagement of great social and national interests. Politics—what are they—what have they been generally but a battle between extremists, in which the great and real interest in question has been the chief sufferer? Is it not so every year—is it not so at this moment? You behold a nation rocked to its centre upon a question which requires the utmost wisdom and moderation to adjust it upon a good and true basis. That nation has this very year received from the hand of God copious harvests and general health, and it has, as it always had, large measures of civil and religious liberty and their concomitant privileges. The spirit of God has wonderfully shed down heavenly influences, by which multitudes throughout the land have been brought to the Truth. These things are God alone for us, showing his mindfulness and readiness to bless. And yet look at the temper in which men have received them—the manner in which men are handling *the delicate machinery of society. The noble* statesmanship which should aim at conciliation of interests, with a view to the wise and healthful removal of all roots of evil, has in an alarming degree given way before the spirit of intemperate party feeling and *sectional animosity, until the knot has become so* complicated that Christian eyes are more than ever *turned to the only* hand that can untie it—the hand of God.

If I had the vanity to suppose that any words of mine were likely to be heeded in the din which now fills the air, I would gladly risk the odium which temperate counsels are sure to meet from the intemperate of all sides. It is a time when nothing but passion seems to be listened to, and the just, middle ground has become the real ground of danger—for they who occupy it, are liable to be shot down by the embittered hosts on each extreme. The plainest words of one who counsels moderation are construed as the trickery inventions of a subtle enemy. By the one party, or of a cowardly time-server by the other, until the hopelessness of doing any good tempts him to beat a sorrowful retreat before the furious spirit of faction. You must either unfurl the banner of Slavery and say "God speed it, it is not an evil, but a good"—or you must say on the opposite extreme, "No, God's curse is on it, and on all who are not ready to call down fire from Heaven to consume it and all concerned in it." You must be prepared to advocate or at least countenance extreme measures *or you are pushed aside and silenced.* The call of faction is,

"Under which king, Bezonian? speak—or die!"

Now, no one can prophecy what may be the Divine purpose in regard to the Slavery or the despotism, or the idolatries, or any other of the great evils which burden mankind. How and when—by what peaceful or violent methods He will overrule and destroy them—no one can foresee. It has been heretofore the hope of the Christian patriot, that instead of attempting to overthrow every oppressive form of servitude *by violence, which means* bloodshed—the gentle, but none the less sure, methods of moral and Christian suasion, would be allowed to effect the necessary changes. And *my own hopefulness is not altogether* gone, that the conservative spirit of the Gospel may yet bring men on both sides to see, that great evils are not to be cured—either by letting them alone on the one hand, or by desperate treatment on the other. *In this hope, let me live until I can entertain it no* longer. In this hope, let me add my small mite to the *influence of the pure and peaceful counsels of what* I believe to be the true Gospel of Christ.

In the first place, let me say, it would be, in my humble judgment, an enormous gain to the cause of humanity, if this question could be swept out of the sphere of party-politics, and left to the management of wise and just men on both sides. It is a complicated and *difficult question* under the most judicious handling of it, but when it is made the stalking-horse behind which political ambition hides its manœuvres, the difficulties are greatly aggravated. This, at the present crisis, is the chief source of discouragement to those who have hitherto hoped for a peaceful issue. This is what has given intensity and acrid intemperance in many cases, to the pulpit and the Press, excellent reformers both of them, except when they enlist as the champions of political party. Then, whether justly or not, they lay themselves open to the suspicion of selfish aims, and thus vitiate their professed appeals to the noble principle of humanity. Misrepresentation then becomes an allowable weapon; exaggeration a virtue, and moderation a crime.

Such, to a great extent, is the case now. The old law—that extremes beget each other—has proved eminently true in this case. Is it not so? On the one side, the grossest exaggerations, and, in many respects, the most unfounded inventions, have gone through the pulpit, the public journal, the platform, the novel, the aim of which has been to represent the South as one great butchery, the cruelties of which made it a world's nuisance, to be abated at all risks—and as one vast seraglio, the license of which was constantly provoking Heaven. The withholding of all the rights of freedom of thought and speech, and all the rights of humanity—the treatment of the slave as a mere beast of burden, to be moved only by the lash—concubinage, separation of families, these and kindred features are charged as the universal results of the system. A *moderate statement* of the real facts, qualified and tempered by truth, would reduce the glowing tints of this picture, until it would look—evil enough indeed—but a little more like the pictures which are to be found in our own *streets and factories, and which ought to sug*gest to our intemperate philanthropists the propriety of looking a little more at home. Need I refer to the thousand forms in which the changes have been rung on this theme? I know, indeed, that all who feel and talk *strongly in opposition* to the evils of Slavery, and do not go the length of rejecting the Bible and the Constitution, for the same reason, viz., that they countenance this "sum of iniquities," but how many are there who have yielded to the clamor, and vied with these men of violence in inflaming appeals to the ignorant and unreflecting multitude. Some of these appeals provoke the retort of sarcasm, but let sarcasm be silent, when the question has come to be a question of bloodshed. Let Truth be heard, as she says to all such absurdly false or exaggerated statements of Southern social life—"This is not the way to cure this evil, or any evil which afflicts the world." Is this the way you strive to reach the idolatry of the world? Is it with the weapons of sarcastic calumny and violence you would hope to win over the heathen? Or, a case more in point, is it thus you would deal with the licentiousness or the intemperance which lie at your doors—or the frequent oppression of the hireling which is starving multitudes of poor among you? Would you think it Christ-like or Paul-like *to enter the lists in this* spirit with the acknowledged evils of European national life, rooted as they are by centuries of social *usage, and intertwined with social and per*sonal interest? Surely not. Common sense asserts that violent changes, though nominally for the better—for example, that of despotic for free government—rarely last, and create greater evils than they cure. History utters this lesson with a memorable emphasis. And here is precisely a case in which the *lesson* should be made available. What results have been already brought forth by the counsels of violence? What have extreme views produced? What trophies can they show? John Brown and the gallows on which he and his guilty conspirators are *to be hanged! Sad spectacle; but as I honestly be*lieve, a just and necessary penalty of actual meditated violence, which, if successful, would have involved an awful sacrifice of life, to say nothing of peace and property. Add to these facts, that this state of things has naturally and necessarily provoked a more sharp and severe surveillance over the slave, has destroyed confidence, that necessary condition of any society, has embittered and alienated man from man, and, *finally, has rendered a wise* and just and generous dealing with the whole question almost impossible, and, it requires very little sagacity to see, that thus far the fruits of exaggeration have been bitter, and bitter only.

But there is another side to the picture, without which it would be false to truth. I have already adverted to the adage, that extremes beget each other. It is so here. I will belong to neither, whatever be the consequences. I will not retract an inch from the position which I deem impregnable, because it is founded on the spirit and the method of the word of God. That position I have held for a long time, and reflection and growing years have only confirmed me in its truth, and I am rejoiced to believe that I share it with a large body of thoughtful and well-balanced minds, both North and South. It is the position of the Church, to which I deem it an honor to belong, and I expect to die and go to the judgment entertaining it. It is, in brief, this: Slavery is an evil—a great evil—a productive evil—an evil to all concerned in it, more or less, sooner or later; but an evil so complicated and so large, that it is to be remedied, lightened and removed as soon as possible, and with a wise, just and humane regard to the interests of all concerned. As to the method of removal, I shall speak in another place.

I mention my position now, in order to give the more point to the remark—that it was within my own recollection, the doctrine of the considerate minds of the South itself. This can easily be proved, if it were necessary. But now!—extremes beget extremes—now, the South has for some time need a very different language; her politicians and her presses, and some of her pulpits even, have largely advanced on their former views. That which was an evil to be remedied, has become, in the eyes of many, a good not only to be protected and perpetuated, but extended. And although the atrocious method of extending it by a revival of the Slave-trade, finds countenance with the thoughtlessly rash and unreasonable measures, yet is it a terrible and deplorable thing that the very suggestion should find any harbor in any heart in a Christian land. Its very proposal is, no doubt, a bravado; but it shows the tendency to exasperated feeling. It cannot find any lodgment in the general mind,—but let the bare suggestion be treated as it deserves by the sober-minded in the South itself. Moreover, it is not to be denied that much has been lately said of the natural inferiority of the black race, as if it justified if not the reducing them to slavery, at least their continued subjection to it as their normal and best condition. But could this feeble voice of mine reach those who maintain that doctrine, I would say to them, it is vain to hope that the world, especially the Christian part of the world can be ever brought to believe that any family of this human race can be justly subdued into a condition of involuntary and hereditary and perpetual bondage, on the ground of their physical inferiority. And if not, it is equally at war with right to keep them in that condition a moment longer than is necessary for their preparation for the responsibilities of freedom. I do not pretend to exhibit the grounds of this almost universal judgment of mankind. I simply declare what I believe to be that judgment. It is my own. The opposite opinion involves consequences so glaring that no thoughtful or humane mind, least of all a friend to human rights and the highest well-being of the race of man, will face them. I would urge, moreover, that the language which has prevailed in the statute books and which degrades a human being to the level of a chattel, a thing destitute of any rights, (language, I am glad to know, practically contradicted by the Christian sentiment of the South,) shocks the common sense of Christendom, and is beyond vindication. Further, I would say that the crying evil of the system, the liability to the breaking up of the domestic bond, by the separation of families, demands as prompt a redress as can be applied—for this, beyond anything else, is the most abhorrent feature of that system. Unfrequent as these separations may be, as an incident of it, their existence at all is at war with fundamental principles of Christian rights and duties.

*Now, in a system thus beset with evil—thus tempt*ing to cupidity and cruelty, thus liable to the abuse of power—it is not difficult to see sufficient reasons why its existence and perpetuation can never become an indifferent matter to the Christian world, and why *extreme views looking to the perpetuity of it*, and rejecting all methods for its amelioration and final removal, are *only likely to madden its opponents into* violent and destructive measures. Violence will beget—it has begotten, violence. Behind the sacred shield of Justice and Liberty, fanaticism fights with a certain advantage. Men, carried forward by a ruthless logic, which makes nothing of expediency, and affirms that the speediest way of righting a wrong is the right way, will never be wanting to foment the evil, by means however revolting to com*mon sense* and an intelligent humanity, and will find a multitude ready to give them the honors of canonization.

I have thus presented and condemned both extremes on this vast subject. I have not pretended to touch any but its salient points. Nor have I attempted to adjust the question of responsibility for the bringing about the present attitude of affairs, or to point out all the inconsistencies which beset the theories and practice of heated partisans on either side. Nor have I presented the facts which I have witnessed in relation to the advantages possessed by the Southern slave, and which show how God has overruled for good that which had its origin in evil. I have not, as I might have done were there time and were it necessary, exhibited the numerous and striking in*stances in which the master's Christian love* and justice has made the condition of the slave happy, peaceful, and privileged with opportunities of knowing, and believing, and practicing the Christian verities. Nor have I, on the other hand, cast up in the face of many a vehement Abolitionist the fact that he is living and thriving on the price of slave labor, which he denounces as an atrocious robbery. I have wished to avoid angry invective and unguarded statement, and to utter only the words of truth and soberness. Elo*quent philippics have been long enough buried from* either side, and have aroused vindictive passion than which nothing more effectually blinds the judgment. Flippant sarcasm never can reach the ends of justice or humanity, and such sarcasm let our public journals *be careful to shun.*

In saying these things, I have prepared the way for stating with necessary brevity the course to be pursued by all who have the highest well-being of our country at heart. It is that of moderation. We have *reached a critical point. Christian Churches have* already been divided, and now a civil breach is threatened by agitators on either side, which, if effected, can only deluge the country in blood, and perpetuate the worst evils of anarchy. Sharp words have already called forth sharp swords. Insurrection has already essayed the overturn of civil order. To call it *madness does not diminish the danger; to ridicule* the alarm that it has created does not restore the *sense of security. It is riot*, always insane, that has been attempted, and all parts of the land should see to it that the attempt be not repeated. Let law govern and punish, for immense issues to life and well-being are at hazard.

Further—our prayer should be, that the time might return when the noble minds of the South and North, East and West, were planning in unison to concert the practicability and necessity of some arrangements which should first ameliorate, and finally remove this anomaly in the body politic. When that time returns—which may God grant—I do not despair of a return to the opinions once and still largely entertained, that the true solution of this great problem must include the gradual exodus of the race which so long ago were brought to our shores, not only against their own will, but against the will of our fathers. My own conviction remains unmoved—it is the same which, years ago, I expressed here at length—that sudden emancipation would be generally destructive to the best interests of all concerned, and that gradual emancipation must be preceded by training, and accompanied by means of exit from this land to another, where the negro may enjoy the real independence and hope of elevation which he can never expect in the presence of a dominant race. Such independence he does not enjoy now in the States of this Union, where he has long possessed a freedom which is only nominal. Such independence, with the full rights of citizenship, would be still more impossible were the *free men of color* counted by millions instead of thousands. Such independence cannot come unless in company with amalgamation. To draw an impassable social line between the races is to defeat the hope of elevation by destroying its chief stimulus.

But it is not to be concealed that this theory of peaceful and useful separation of the races, will require time and the cooperation of North and South. Violence and disruption will not promote the ends of freedom nor those of safety. On the contrary, they *fill the future with shapeless but hideous evils to all* concerned. It is no case for incompetent and intemperate meddlers. Let the spirit of the Gospel, which counsels the things that make for peace, and which seeks the glorious ends of human elevation and redress of all evils by disposing men's hearts to do justly and love mercy; let the spirit of the Gospel, which relies on persuasive arguments, and not on the sword of the violent man, be brought in to resume the work which it was carrying on so healthily, until interrupted by the fanatical zealots on either side.

This thought, with which I must close, brings us back to our great reliance in times of difficulty—an appeal to our God, the God of our fathers, that He would take the cause out of the human hands which have so miserably mismanaged it, and open a way for our deliverance from impending dangers. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

SIGNIFICANCE OF GRATITUDE.

REV. ALFRED B. BEACH, D. D.,

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, TWENTIETH-STREET.

The Rector of this Church, Rev. Dr. Beach, after an appropriate and stirring discourse, as to what constitutes proper gratitude to God, closed as follows:

"Throughout the widely extended borders of our land, this has been a year of remarkable health, of uninterrupted peace, of great prosperity and plenty.

Let us remember, that to be properly and duly thankful for these invaluable blessings, is one way of securing to ourselves a continuance of that Divine favor which has bestowed them.

When I look out upon our glorious country, her expanse of magnificent domains, her almost boundless capacity for strength and power, and stability and permanence; and when I look back upon her history, the struggle which our fathers made for her independence, the anxious and prayerful deliberations in which they engaged for the purpose of leaving behind them the best and most just form of Government for us, their children, to enjoy. When I remember how they fought and bled, and supplicated the God of nations to deal with them according to the justice of their cause; and when I remember how wonderfully God manifested unto them his favor, and crowned their efforts with success; and when I look now and see the grand result of their struggles in this mighty Confederation, I cannot but say: Woe be to the man, as an ungrateful wretch, who can entertain in his thoughts, without intense grief, the prospect of a possible dissolution and destruction of this glorious fabric. Who will not do all that he can to avert such a dire calamity? The man who loves not his country too well to see it threatened with being torn asunder by intestine excitement, hatred and strife, without employing his utmost endeavors to prevent such a terrible issue, deserves not to have a country.

In the freedom and independence which our form of government gives to individuals, let every individual beware how he courts a tyranny that may at any moment of success sweep away his possessions, his employment and his life.

Under every form of government there are existing the elements of ruin and destruction. May God preserve us from the madness and impiety of those who would fan them into a flame in this our land."

A CHEERFUL TEMPER.

REV. WILLIAM ADAMS, D. D.

MADISON-SQUARE CHURCH.

Prov. 15: 13.—He that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.

Prov. 17: 22.—A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.

An excellent minister of my acquaintance is in the habit of selecting the texts of his Thanksgiving sermons out of the Book of Lamentations. Appropriateness is the first law in all kinds of discourse. The elegies of the weeping prophet are a part of the Sacred Volume, and frequent enough are the occasions when they may be used with utmost pertinency. But so it happens that this day—the only day in our calendar of the kind—is the one in which dirges are not so appropriate as carols. It has been designated, according to an ancient custom, not for fasting and humiliation, but for the gladness of praise; not to furnish the Pulpit with an opportunity for pelting the civil magistracy, nor for indulging in luxurious complaints and apprehensions as to the condition and prospects of political affairs; but specifically to rehearse those acts of the Divine goodness which should inspire us with gratitude and incline us to a cheerful expression of thanks. That man who, in the worst condition of affairs cannot discover material enough for praise is already in a morbid and most deplorable state.

Though this particular day is designated by the civil authorities, it should be borne in mind that in the courtesy national organization which had God for its author, several days in the year were set apart by Divine institution for religious festivities. Spring, Summer and Autumn had each its festal symbolism; the most joyous of which, called the Feast of Tabernacles, was an annual Thanksgiving—not only in memory of ancestral favors, but for the ingathering of the harvests. Nothing can be conceived more beautiful than the manner of its observance. Booths were erected in the open air, out of branches from the palm and willow, within which families were gathered, to eat together before the Lord, so that the occasion was sacred to the reunion of friends, the enjoyment of hospitality, the interchange of kindness, the expression of generous regard for the stranger, the *widow, and the fatherless. Nor was it lawful for a* Jew so much as to taste of ear or parched corn, or *bread of the new harvest, till a* nation had borne a sheaf of barley or wheat, and waved it before God, in its temple, in token of their gratitude. Are we charmed by the picture which the imagination paints of that national spectacle, when the glens of the vine and olive gave forth their *happy* inhabitants, to flow together in to the court of the Lord, with chaunting of psalms and waving of sheaf and branch? but when not the sun ever look down upon such a scene as is this day spread beneath his eye on this Western Continent, a land unknown and undreamed of when Hebrew *Feasts* were instituted; where so many States of our Confederacy have agreed to devote one and the same day for Thanksgiving to our common Father for his abundant goodness? What millions of wellfed, well-fed, well-taught, and if they would but believe it, *happy people*, are to-day to be seen within the temples of religion, and the homes of health, comfort, and plenty. As my mind traverses over the extended scene, it rests not so much on metropolitan affluence, on gatherings within stately mansions and lapidstreed walls, where sumptuous fare is of daily occurrence, as on those humbler habitations of rural life, where man is brought, by earth, sky, and season into closer contact with God. Toil is at rest and contented with its rewards. Plough and flail are exchanged for recreation. If nature is more silent than in earlier months when birds and beasts are full of joyous music and life, it is the stillness of peaceful contentment. The rich Autumn sunlight bathes the sere and yellow stalks and husks of corn still standing in the field, divested of Summer *flora* and greenness, reduced to the undress of the year, yet testifying of the golden wealth it has yielded to many barns bursting with plenty; the cattle chewing the cud with mute thankfulness; families reassembled in the old homestead; mirth in the voices of the *young*, and placid delight warming the ashy hue of age; what images of serene satisfaction are those which are presented by the employments in which a *nation is this day engaged! Consider, withal, the de*grees of latitude over which this observance is extended! The magnolia and the rose have not yet ceased to emit their perfume in the States of the South, while along our northernmost frontier, Winter has *already converted the streams into ice. One of the* chief advantages, we are told, of the national festivity of the Hebrew, was, by friendly intercourse between those of different clans and tribes, to promote a spirit of common patriotism. If this day of thanksgiving would but be observed in a becoming spirit, how much would it accomplish in the way of purify*ing and strengthening the sentiment of nationality*, which, though it was fostered by ancestral memories, cemented by the blood of our fathers, and wrought into the structure of our continent by the hand of God, in the flow of rivers, the clasp of lakes and ridges, and the embracing arm of an unbroken sea-board, has come—God forgive us that it is so—to be spoken of most slightingly, to be struck at most ruthlessly, as if it were a common and an unclean thing.

The occasions for gratitude are as numerous as the favors of Providence. In former discourses we have rehearsed the great constellations of Divine goodness; and considered also the common mercies of daily life, forgetting not those benefits which come in the form of tears and mellowing discipline; but to-day I have chosen a theme which transcends them all. The greatest boon of Providence is a *disposition* to enjoy all things. Mr. Addison closes one of his essays in the *Spectator* with these lines, adopted now into our Sabbath hymns, and familiar to all who read the English tongue:

"Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
My daily thanks employ,
Nor is the least a *cheerful heart*,
That tastes those gifts with joy."

Not the least! It is the whole. It is the mind itself which colors all outward conditions; and affluence of gifts would leave one in misery if there were no interior disposition to cheerfulness. "He that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast." Some nicety of discrimination is necessary, if we would hit the exact shade of meaning. Changes have occurred in the sufficiency of words since our English version was made which might mislead the unthinking. Merriment most readily suggests the idea of conviviality and jollity. A "Merry Andrew" excites boisterous laughter. We naturally associate with merriment the absence of *the higher qualities, and except in the case of chil*dren, with whom animal spirits are an exuberant *fountain of gaiety*, we more generally connect it with artificial stimulants, the sparkling cup and the shout of high-sounding festivity. Instead of commending *hilarity like this as a medicine—we have the* impression that the Scriptures compares it to some*thing else which begins with an M*—madness. Collating the several passages in the Old and New Testament, in which the word thus translated merry, is used, we find no difficulty in ascertaining the precise intention of the word. "Is any among you merry? let him sing psalms"—says the Apostle James. The word here used in the very same which Paul employed when addressing the ship's company in danger of wreck—"Be of good cheer"—circumstances suggesting the pertinency of bravery and hope, but forbidding any approach to hilarity. The Hebrew word in our text is translated in the Septuagint, by a synonym which is used elsewhere in the New Testament (1 Thess. iv., 11) to express quiet contentment; the same which Plutarch frequently employs in his essay on *mental tranquility.* So that we are fortified by usage, scriptural and classical, in adopting this as the exact shade of thought in the text. "A cheerful heart doeth good like a medicine." The etymology of the word *euthumia*, be of good cheer, conveys a lesson—*well-minded, well-disposed*—for cheerfulness always has in it an element of goodness, while merriment may co-exist with folly and crime. When Milton describes the fallen angels after the Stygian Council *was dissolved*, dispersing in various directions, some indulging in feats of strength and speed with uproarious mirth; and when Death himself is represented *by the same author, as "grinning horribly a ghast*ly smile," it does not shock the taste; but had he described either as *cheerful*, radiant with smiling tranquility, we should have felt the incongruity, for he is describing the dark forms of guilt and woe. While in this part of my subject, let us mention a few more distinctions separating cheerfulness from other things with which it is often confounded. It is not the same as wit; though a cheerful temper may show its play through wit, if this intellectual quality exist. "Foolish jesting" is condemned alike by good manners and Scripture. The quick associations of wit are of the intellect and not of the heart, and too frequently have they been associated with cruelty of disposition. Ba*dinage* to be witty is always weak and pitiable. That was sage advice which Dean Swift gave to a young clergyman. "I cannot forbear warning you," says he, "in the most earnest manner, against endeavoring at wit in your sermons, because, by the strictest computation, it is very near a million to one that you have none, and because too many of your profession have made themselves everlastingly ridiculous by attempting it." To which may be added, if the pulpit is ever the place for wit, never, never is it the place for levity. Though this intellectual gladiatorship of wit is often employed in the service of cruel satire and stinging sarcasm, yet it may be associated with more genial and kindly qualities. Should I say that there were a few cases in which the Apostle Paul has used the rapier thrust of wit, I should not be understood by those who do not comprehend through a translation, the sharp point of certain Greek words. The principle advocated by Shakespeare that "ridicule is a test of truth," cannot be conceded; but if ever there was a book mighty in its wit, it is *Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress.* The name of the streets in Vanity Fair; of the judges and jury, and the counsel in the trial of Faithful, excite a smile at his witty adroitness; but it is a wit like the smooth beauty of the lightning, which demolishes what it hits. So, again, cheerfulness is distinct from the sense of the humorous, however acute it may be. Humor is a sign of sensibility, of pathos, a deep, rich sort of feeling, even though it be sad; for the very word signifies moisture, and, like April weather, smiles and tears are mingled together in its composition. The most grotesque images may be suggested and enjoyed by a sense of the humorous, when bodily and mental disease will not allow cheerfulness, of which Cowper is a remarkable instance. The amusing description of John Gilpin, which every reader of poetry has read without laughing, was written, it is said, during one of the longest and gloomiest of those seasons of melancholy, to which his sad life was subject—a streak of crimson and gold on the edge of the blackest cloud. Instances are well authenticated, in which actors on the stage, with the keenest perception of the humorous by which they have convulsed houses with merriment, have gone home and gloomily meditated suicide

few words of inspiration, "Be careful for nothing," (the word denotes an uneasy, unCheerful, apprehension) "but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God, and the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ." It has been very profanely said by some in their perverse way, that as things are among us we have small occasion for thanksgiving. Such men ought to pass their lives in Mexico or Algiers. Nothing to be thankful for! If all the people of these States would, for the whole day, in their homes and in their houses of worship, employ themselves in meditating the bounty of God by which we are distinguished, what heart-felt effects would flow from the gratitude, such an occupation would inspire. Direful evils there may be—national sins may provoke Divine displeasure—perils may environ us—but, notwithstanding all, how much for which we ought to be thankful. "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad!" Let us come with our homage and gratitude and sing praises to Him. In the worst times let this be our joyous confidence—"The Lord God omnipotent reigneth." "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail and the fields yield no wheat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet we will rejoice in the Lord. We will joy in the God of our salvation." If there is one peril more than another which threatens our prosperity, I will venture to give it a name—that indifference to our mercies which might provoke God to withdraw them and give them to another people. May God inculcate upon us a more than usually humble, unselfish, contented, cheerful, thankful temper, which is at once a medicine and a feast, an ornament and protection.

Bear with me in one word of another sort; which, unsaid, might leave some heart in the revelation of disappointment. This morning I received a note from a friend informing me of the death of his child. It was on the morning of a Thanksgiving Day, that I was myself once bereaved of a child. Not a few have come up to this place to-day in a strange loneliness. But there is nothing incongruous in what we have said to their condition. Mirth might be to them the occasion of affliction and pain, by the intrusion of contrary qualities. But as to cheerfulness, what heart knows so much of it as that which has been mellowed by affliction? Not he who has been elated by long-continued prosperity knows the secret of true serenity, but meek-eyed sorrow speaks with a low and gentle voice of the goodness of God, and the best incentives to gratitude are those which memory brings up from the shadows of the past. If your young child's bed not occupy a seat at your table to-day; if your cannot put your hand on its fair head with a blessing, thank God for its better home—its better shelter—and the warm and better love you bear it—now that the heavens have received it. May the God of all grace and consolation cause us all to abound in hope even unto the end.

If there are tears and clouds, there is also a bow. Be still, be cheerful, be thankful. Let this day, sacred to religious gratitude, to contentment, to charity, aid us all in preparation for eternal songs and festivities in the Kingdom of God.

AMERICAN PATRIOTISM.

REV. FRANCIS L. HAWKS, DD.

CALVARY CHURCH.

1. Oh! praise the Lord all ye nations; praise him all ye people. 2. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord. Psalm cxvii.

Man sin in crowds, but each individual in those crowds must stand alone for final judgment. Nations are now triumphant, and now overthrown, but, be the event one or the other, it is all transacted here—of the earth, all earthy. Eternity knows nothing; in its judgments of nations, its doom is of the individuals simply that make up nations. And why? Because individual actions, of which each actor has control, make up, in their aggregate, the action of the nation to which those individuals belong. The responsibility is thus proportioned to the opportunity, and the means conferred, for regulating individual conduct. This is the equitable rule in dispensing the judgments of eternity. But there are judgments upon earth for national wrong-doing; and, therefore, the member of earthly society has a responsibility to meet here, as well as a final, personal doom, to meet hereafter. His individual action as a citizen here, may imperil his comfort on earth; while, in the same act, his conduct as a man, a rational creature, accountable to God, may impart happiness hereafter. As a member of society, man has no right to "follow a multitude to do evil." Nor is his responsibility, as a man, any the less, simply because he acts in concert with that multitude; it cannot be distributed among them! It may seem to be less to men, because of the difficulty they find in attributing to each individual his exact share in the production of the general result of combined action; but it is not so to God, whose omniscience encounters no such difficulty. Now, it is precisely this difficulty which makes men either less vigilant over their actions as members of the body politic and social, or, which is quite as bad, indifferent to the performance of any actions as citizens, at all. Hence it results that in a Government where suffrage is universal, the work of the State is apt to be managed by those who trouble themselves very little with the difficulty we have mentioned, because they feel no responsibilities either social or individual. This state of things, however, (if past history may be believed,) is endurable for a time only. It passes through its regular stages of anarchy, civil war, despotism, and finally terminates in a settled Government of some kind, which, if it restricts human freedom (as it is apt to do), at least possesses vigorous strength, and affords, at least, protection to the well-disposed. This is the usual history of republics. But when our fathers founded this republic, knowing, as they well did, the lesson furnished by an experience of the past, they were not ignorant that a new element was incorporated into their organization which had been wanting in the past—an element potent enough, if allowed to operate, to afford some security against a repetition of the sad routine of past failures in republics, by enlisting the deepest and strongest of man's feelings, even the religious sympathies of his nature—his conscience and sense of duty to God—on the side of the Government. That element was Christianity. They were making a republic for men who came of Christian parentage, and had been taught the great truths of Christ's religion. Whether this new element will afford the safeguard which they hoped for it, is a problem yet to be solved; and, indeed, it is a problem simply because, as I just remarked, to afford security it must be allowed to operate. If it be thus allowed, there is no doubt of its sufficiency. And this train of thought brings us inevitably to this conclusion—that of all the nations in Christendom there is none which needs Christianity, as a silent governmental element, as much as the United States does; and further, that there is not one which adopted a wiser measure to secure that aid, than was shown by our fathers, in refusing to fetter men's consciences, and in leaving each man free to adopt that form of Christianity most in accordance with his own views of duty. Nothing short of a deep sense of obligation to God, recognized by the mass of the people, and lying behind all our municipal regulations, giving to them the moral support which human law must have in its administration, can possibly sustain in perpetuity, political institutions like ours. If you will build on the virtue of the people as a foundation, you must, of course, make your foundation strong by enlisting some agency to make the people virtuous; for then only are they competent to works of self-government, and where will you find this agency but in Christianity?

The custom of our country has appropriated the exercises of the pulpit on this day more particularly to a consideration of our duties as Christian citizens. Let my theme of to-day then be American Patriotism—I mean the genuine patriotism of an intelligent Christian man.

And first, What does the Christian patriot of this country owe to the world? Every nation has its own concurrence of providential events which indicate its peculiar duties. What then is our position and power as a people, and what may be our influence on the world without our borders? With a rapidity so marvelous that to all but the blind it indicates the special hand of Providence, we have grown within less than a century, from a few poor colonies, struggling for life on our Atlantic coast, into a mighty nation, stretching, in our territory, from the region of arctic cold down to the clime of tropical airs and eververdant vegetation—and comprehending in our lateral grasp a broad continent, washed on its opposite coasts by the waves of two great oceans. Within this wide expanse, with every variety of climate and of soils with far more territory than we have yet population to occupy, with untold and almost incredible mineral wealth beneath the surface of the earth, and a profusion of God's richest vegetable bounties upon it; with an intermediate position between Europe and Asia, indicating a rapid approximation to the time when our continent must become a middle ground in the great lines of transit for the commerce of a world, what more of natural advantages could Heaven bestow? But this is not all; as if to facilitate our efforts in subduing and utilizing [illegible] for God's glory and man's [illegible] the period of our greatest growth [illegible] It is since we came into birth as a nation that these great modern elements of human progress have been developed. Steam has become our slave, annihilating our messenger, and gold the magician that has put them to work. Since the coming of our Blessed Saviour, there has been, in all history, no epoch more as important to man in its mighty results, and prospective, as the present. The mariner's [illegible] the revival of learning, the invention of gunpowder, the discovery of America, the reformation of religion, were all great events—all to the philosopher and of thoughtful man, footprints in the stately march of Jehovah as he passed on to the accomplishment of his great but unseen purposes, in fulfilling the predetermined destinies of this world which He has made. But the future chronicler of past events, as he looks back on the unrolled scroll of time, will never [illegible] write down the times in which we live as part of the "marvellous century" in man's story.

But yet is this all. Unlike the elder nations of Christendom, we emerged not into civilization from a previous state of barbarism. We grope not in the dim caverns of antiquity to find in the dying legends of some silly tradition, the origin of our national existence. Our history is all written in authentic records; and our starting point among the nations of the earth is one which, from the beginning pinned us as the birth with the highest civilization of Europe. Hence our political institutions, embodying, as they do, so much of freedom. We had the benefit of that which had passed the ordeal of actual experiment in other lands. We were not obliged to grope in the dark, and feel our way, as it were, to great political principles. And now what is the necessary and fair inference from facts like these? Is it not that God meant our national existence and happy [illegible] condition to ensure a salutary influence upon the world? Nations, [illegible] themselves only. And if this be so, [illegible] tion plain, as one of the great family of nations? Shall we take all we can get from them, unconscientious as to the means we employ, and give them back in return nothing? Shall we, with a national selfishness whose worst parallel is the high-handed robbery which the strength of a common felon enables him to perpetrate over a weak and therefore unresisting victim? Shall the nation become a common thief, and pirate-like prey, wherever it can with impunity, on those who cannot defend themselves from our dishonorable larcenies? Was it from this, that God made our nation what it is?

But again, there is another very plain duty which, I think, we owe to the world, and, as I will show you presently, not to the world only, but to the honored memory of our buried fathers, as well as to the present of ourselves and the future of our children. Ours is a land of plenty, and our institutions afford all the political freedom a reasonable man can desire. The fame of our country, in these respects at least, has gone out into all lands in Christendom. The overworked serf and the ill-paid artisan of another hemisphere have heard the wonderful story of wild country far distant over the waves, where such as they are free and comfortable. They look upon their wives and little ones, and sunder all ties of early association and home-born affections, they gather around them the group they love, and are soon tossing on the billows, heading their course to this El Dorado of their anxious and sanguine hopes. And what has made it an El Dorado for such in truth it is to the honest and industrious emigrant from other lands. Its physical abundance, its political freedom and its national strength—these are the bright stars which have lured these hopeful wanderers over the sea; these are the particulars which fix our country to be a home for men in other lands, less happy than we are. And yet some of these are the very men who clamor loudest about our institutions, and our sacred, inalienable rights as American citizens. Our institutions! our rights! Why, if their fathers could have performed what they were hired to do, in the work of slaughter, their sons would not be here to-day to howl out party slang, in broken English, about their rights and privileges; we owe it to our own fathers, not to theirs, that there are in existence such things as an American Republic and American citizens. Well, yet again there is another class among them quite guiltless of ability to utter one word of our language, or perchance to read one word of any other, who have merely transferred to our soil all the ignorance, all the prejudices and all the practices which belonged to them at home; and who, in an occasional outbreak, riot or murder, exhibit their profound and intelligent appreciation of the value of free institutions. Here, then, is the evil, and I think that every honest man here will admit that it is not exaggerated. With this, then, (whether we wish it or not,) we are in presence required to deal, if indeed we are not prepared to succumb to it.

What, then, is the remedy for it? And this brings us to the question of *duty*. What does the American not owe to his country and to himself in this matter? There are but two remedies, and one of these, which I shall speak first, is but partial only, and stands against the future without providing for the present. This remedy is an absolute exclusion of refugees from our shores. But what man of humanity or political sagacity would think of applying this? We have a broad territory, where honest industry is rewarded with abundance, large enough and rich enough to afford a comfortable asylum for all the poor or the oppressed who choose to come. Many, too, of those who would seek it are excellent and worthy; and, in one way or other, many have doubtless been the victims of a hard and tyrannous oppression. At all events, they are men and brethren of our common humanity. I cannot, therefore, find it in my heart to say aught else than "Let them come and find here comfort and a home." In truth I think God made us what we are as a nation, that these might have a place to which they could come. But while they here find comfort and a home, it is a solemn duty that we owe to ourselves and our children, to let them know from the hour of their coming, that there must be no improper interference on their parts with our comforts and our homes. They are not to take our country out of our hands, and tell us, as some of them have done, that if we do not like the arrangement we can leave our country. Now I know that the good, the orderly, the religious, the industrious, will not [illegible] thus to interfere with our right. They will not be noisy politicians, brawling about a liberty which they do not understand, seeking only to pervert ours, which they know not how to fill, insulting the Christian feelings of those who differ from them, and, in short, somewhat unceremoniously destroying our right to the enjoyment of our own country and laws, and our usages, even though they have cost us our fathers' and ourselves some treasure and some blood. Let our laws be such as will protect the worthy emigrant of all lands, and secure to him the fruits of his honest industry; but let them also put in his proper place him who has no proper sense of the kindness shown him in affording him a refuge and a home. And, above all things, in God's name and for the sake of our dear country, put men in power who are honest enough and courageous enough to execute those laws. The exclusion of emigrants then, either in whole or in part, is not the proper remedy.

We ask, then, what is the other and only remedy to which we have alluded? It is in moral and religious influences, and in nothing else. Christian patriots must work in this direction. You must enlighten the strangers as fast you can; You must give them knowledge, secular and spiritual; and here the American patriot, who unhappily is but a Christian in name, may perceive the force of a principle, which you who worship here habitually, will remember to have heard from me more than once, for it is a vital principle; it is this—Governments are more dependent upon, and more indebted to Christianity, than Christianity is to them. Man makes forms of government, but God made Christianity. Man's work, at best, is tainted with human fallibility, and man may alter or destroy it; but God is unchangeable, and, therefore, Christianity is an eternal, practical truth. It will live in freshness and beauty when human governments are all gone. And in this work of enlightenment you must work chiefly among the young, for they are impressible—the old are petrified. The children are to be among the future men and women of the country. But in the instruction you impart, forget not that education for time is Christian; your public schools, but especially the Bible—[illegible] them in your Sunday schools and churches must go hand in hand with your public schools. The physical, the intellectual and the moral part of our nature, must all be alike under training. To teach the heart is more important than to teach the head only. The first will give a safe direction to the last; but the last alone gives no holy and blessed influences to the first. For good or for evil, then, children must grow up among us; for good or for evil, they must be among the men and the women who are to shape the future of this Republic. *What shall that future be?* Ah! I have asked a question of solemn interest to the American patriot. What shall the future of this blessed union of now confederated States be? The times, the times, my dear countrymen, surround this question with an awful interest. God only can answer it, for to God only is the future a part of the ever present now on which he looks perpetually. Known unto Him only are all his works from the beginning. But I have loved to think that our dear country was made for high, and, as yet, unfulfilled destinies. I have loved to think that in the gradual unrolling of the mighty scroll on which God has inscribed the story of the future (for it is God who makes all history), men should read in long succession, as fold after fold was spread before the nations, emblazoned in letters of living light: "this," and "this," and "this," is the work which my providences has allotted to America for performance. I have loved to think that it was ours to rear high the beacon light, and keep bright the flashing blaze, with its illumination of whose golden glow would bathe, high poised, that all the earth might look upon her queen-like majesty, the Genius of rational enlightened Freedom. I have loved to think that it was our glorious destiny to prove that God would be most truly and devoutly worshiped where no force was put upon the conscience; that man was best governed, where he was enlightened to understand, and permitted to assist in making the laws which govern him. I have loved to think that in the mighty coming conflict among the nationalities of this world, on which none but a fool can shut his eyes, between the giant, antagonistic powers of earthly absolutism on the one hand, and human freedom on the other, that it would be ours to stand in the van, the great embodied exponent and representative to the world of the blessing to humanity, of liberty; liberty under law—liberty under law made by ourselves. I have loved to think that in the struggles made by our crushed brethren of our common humanity in other lands, to rise to a higher, better being than a state of serfdom, they would gather encouragement from our example, instruction from our doings, light from our illumination, and courage as there fell upon their ears the distant cry of our sentinels upon the lofty citadel of our freedom: "All's well—for God, for our country, and for Liberty." I have loved to think of the magnificent development of our country, linked together by holy ties of brotherhood, united in enduring bonds of interest, stretching from polar ice to tropical verdure, spanning from ocean to ocean; too strong to be aggressive, too magnanimous to hurt the weak, just to all, and standing with proud and quiet self-respect in the consciousness of a gigantic strength which all nations shall feel it to be wisdom not to insult or provoke. These are the visions which have risen up before me of the grandeur of my country's future. And I have loved, too, to dwell upon a picture of softer, gentler features, yet part and parcel of the whole. I have mused over its beautiful touches, as they successively arose to the mind's eye, in the thousands, nay millions of spots in our blessed land, consecrated by the virtues of our people to the hallowed enjoyments of happy, domestic life. With our men, industrious, brave and honest, our women, virtuous and affectionate, our children, learning their duty to God, their country and themselves, there arise up to the imagination thousands upon thousands of spots, villages, hamlets, towns, cities; and, in all, there are the spires of the churches pointing upward to God, and there are the school-houses for the happy children who make the very air laugh with them, as they ring out their tiny shouts of merriment in the gambols of their play-time; and there are the innumerable domestic hearthstones, where the mother, with matronly care, gathers her precious brood around her in the frosty coldness of the Winter's night, while the sparkling fire, as it crackles and blazes, illuminates the group of happy children's faces, making them feel what a blessed world of comfort is in that dear word, home; and the father, his day's toil over, sits by, delighted to be one and mingle in the sports of that childish circle, where none need want food or raiment, so bounteously, so benevolently, has a good God blessed the land we live in, giving an ample return to honest industry. Ah! this is the school for the heart—the alphabet is made up of the affections, and the moral of all the lessons is love, nothing but love.

What blessed pictures of a happy people are such as these: and your own hearts, I know, will readily supply you with thousands far better than these poor sketches of mine.

But perchance you will say to me, "If a man hath a dream, let him tell it as a dream." Is this, then, all a dream? Under God it depends upon Americans to say—aye, upon the wise and good of all parties in these United States. It need not be a dream; but a dream it will surely prove if we be recreant to our duty.

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THE EVENING OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.

BY REV. GEORGE W. BETHUNE, D. D.

[Concluded from last week.]

Another reason why the Sabbath should be kept holy is, that it is a day of rest. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work. Labor is the appointed lot of man. Not labor only, but labor in the sweat of the face. Labor, not merely of the hands, but of the head. Labor, not merely of the head, but of the heart. Labor, not merely of the heart, but of the whole man, body, soul and spirit. Labor, not merely of the whole man, but of the whole family, of the whole community, of the whole nation, of the whole race. Labor, not merely of the whole race, but of the whole creation, which groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now, waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. Labor, not merely of the creation, but of the Creator himself, who worketh hitherto, and who has taught us by his own example, that labor is not only a duty, but a delight. Labor, then, is the universal law of life. Labor is the condition of existence. Labor is the means of progress. Labor is the parent of wealth, of power, of knowledge, of virtue, of happiness. Labor is the only source of all that is good, and true, and beautiful in the universe. Labor is the only way to heaven. Labor is the only way to God. Labor is the only way to Christ. Labor is the only way to the Holy Ghost. Labor is the only way to the Father of lights, from whom cometh down every good and every perfect gift. Labor is the only way to the Son of God, who came down from heaven, not to do his own will, but the will of him that sent him. Labor is the only way to the Holy Ghost, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, to help our infirmities, and to make intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. Labor is the only way to the Father, who is the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering and abundant in goodness and truth, who keepeth mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1859.

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Amusements this Evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—The Magic Flute.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—Wild Oats—Bathing.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—The Wife's Secret—Norma.

BRAYTON'S PARLOR OPERAS—Nos. 718 and 720 Broadway—Nothing Venture, Nothing Have—Love's Labor Lost.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE—Fast Women—The Lancashire Boy.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM—Afternoon: The Lost Son—Jobb Jobbs—Evening: Eustache Baudin.

CHATHAM AMPHITHEATRE—Nixon & Atwan's Circus.

PALACE GARDEN—Van Amburgh & Co.'s Menagerie.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS—No. 444 Broadway—Ethiopian Entertainments.

HIBLO'S SALOON—George Christy's Minstrels.

CHURCH'S "HEART OF THE ANDES"—Studio Buildings, No. 15 Tenth-street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

STUYVESANT INSTITUTE, No. 659 Broadway—Abbott's Collection of Egyptian Antiquities.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Rossiter & Mignot's Painting "The Home of Washington after the War."

GOUPIL'S NEW GALLERY—Corner of Broadway and Ninth-st.—Two Paintings by Rosa Bonheur.

SCHAUS' GALLERY—No. 622 Broadway—Palmer's Statue, "The White Captive."

PICTURE GALLERY—Whitlock's, No. 396 Canal-street—Free admission.

DUSSELDORF GALLERY—Exhibition of Paintings.

HOPE CHAPEL—Waugh's Italia.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The *Circassian*, from Galway, brings to St. John N. F., European news to the 13th inst. It is of interest. The Conference at Zurich had been brought to a close, the three treaties already announced having been formally signed. A reduction of 2,000,000 of francs is reported to have been made in the sum to be paid by France to Austria. With regard to the projected Congress, Sir G. C. Lewis, speaking for the English ministry at the Lord Mayor's banquet, stated that no proposition had been made to England on the subject, but when made, it would be met with a demand for Italian independence as a preliminary condition. The regency of Tuscany having been tendered to the Prince of Carignano, the King of Sardinia, and the Emperor of the French, through the *Moniteur*, had expressed their dissatisfaction with the project. The war between Spain and Morocco was likely to proceed, notwithstanding a momentary rumor of the willingness of the Moors to recede. A late dispatch describes them as preparing to attack Ceuta. Nothing of moment is reported from China. Mr. Ward, the American Minister, had gone to Japan, where also a large and menacing fleet of Russian men-of-war was concentrating.

Our correspondent at the Cape de Verde Islands supplies us with interesting information respecting the American squadron on the African coast. All of the vessels have in turn visited Porto Grande. Their perfect equipment and adaptation to the duty assigned them attracted universal praise. It is thought that, as the squadron was never so numerous and well prepared, so its efficiency will be demonstrated in the entire suppression of the slave traffic.

Our community, which it might be malicious to say, is willing enough to suspend business operations when each individual is sure that his fellow will not anticipate him in achieving a bargain, paid all observance to Thanksgiving Day. The stores, excepting those which are chronically open, closed their doors and put up their shutters; those of the people who find no other opportunity of enjoying themselves, breathed the cool, bracing air in the streets, while multitudes went to hear their favorite preachers descant on topics forbidden them at other seasons. In the morning the leading churches were open for public service. Of the sermons delivered, we reproduce in full in our present impression those bearing more particularly on subjects of current interest, while a large number of others are presented more curtly, though not with the omission of the more striking points.

The festival was not, of course, without its charitable aspects. The children at the Five Points House of Industry, and also at the Ladies' Home Mission School, were treated to their customary thanksgiving dinner yesterday. Donations of food and other articles supplied broad tables, at which over one thousand children, and the parents of many of them, were fed. About five hundred dollars in cash were received. The news-boys also had their dinner at the Lodging-house, enjoying it amazingly. At the Home of the Friendless there were fifteen hundred visitors during the day, and about four hundred dollars in money were left for the benefit of the institution. The exercises at both places were of an interesting character.

Rev. Dr. Potts deprecated the fierce sectional temper in which the great social questions of the day are discussed, at a time when the utmost moderation is called for. Nothing, he observed, but passion seems to be listened to, and the just, middle ground is the real ground of danger. The conservative spirit of the Gospel teaches men that great evils are not to be cured either by letting them alone on the one hand, or by desperate treatment on the other. Dr. Potts would regard it as an enormous gain to the cause of humanity if the exciting question of the country could be swept out of the sphere of party politics, and left to the determination of wise and just men on both sides. He believed that the gallows would be a fitting retribution for the meditated violence of John Brown.

Rev. Dr. Adams, of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, preached upon Cheerfulness. After showing the analogy between our annual festival and the Harvest Feast of the Jewish economy, he proceeded to define accurately the meaning of the term "Cheerfulness." He deemed it a quality superior to merriment, frivolity, wit or humor, for it implied a religious element. For those who assumed a severity of manners under pretense of religious anxiety, he had but little sympathy; and still less for that class of persons who can see nothing in our political system and national circumstances worthy of gratitude to Divine Providence. Dr. Adams closed with a brief statement of the means by which a cheerful disposition was to be acquired and maintained.

Treating of "American Patriotism," Rev. Dr. Hawks exalted the prerogative of American citizenship, and its correlative obligations, and expressed the conviction that there is not in Christendom a nation so much in need of Christianity, as a silent governmental element, as this. While America is especially designed by Providence to be a home for the exiled and outcast, and while immigrants should be cordially welcomed to our shores, no improper interference should be allowed from abroad with our institutions and privileges. The flippancy and vulgarity of a portion of the Press was censured, and a warning given of the dangers of a departure from wise neutrality in the conflicts of other nations. The sermon closed with a glowing prevision of the grandeur of the country.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher treated of the import of this national tribute of thanks. The union of material and religious forces is, in his view, a striking attribute of the times, which furnishes abundant occasion for thanksgiving. The mystery of human nature is now soon to be solved—the working of the age is to bring up a grand fundamental knowledge of man, both body and soul—there is a real and most encouraging growth, not alone of intelligence, but also of moral health among the common people. Mr. Beecher's view of the general state of affairs, present and prospective, was extremely cheerful, and his sermon free from political allusions.

"The True Glory of a Nation" was the theme of a discourse pronounced by the Rev. Dr. McClintock. The nation's true glory the speaker held to consist, not in its grandeur, wealth, power, intellectual and brute forces, but in the moral and intellectual qualities of its individuals. Justice between man and man is the only ground of peace.

Dr. McClintock concluded the day's services at the request of Chaplains, so as to call their duty to the City and State, and called the attention of his hearers to the present situation of New-York in relation to its Government for the next two years. The basis of a nation's true glory is religious, not merely ethical; supernatural, not natural. The guarantees of such glory are the nation's moral power and fear of God.

The appropriate topic of Rev. Dr. Chapin, was the supremacy of Providence in the affairs of the world, and the resulting obligation of prayer. Touching upon national sins as the proper objects of penitence at this moment of thanksgiving, the orator pronounced the attempt at Harper's Ferry to be an offense deserving the heartiest repentance. At the same time he could not withhold his admiration of the heroism of John Brown, nor refrain from crying shame upon the man who spoke unkindly of him, who for his principles is so soon to stand upon the scaffold. In conclusion, Dr. Chapin reprobated Slavery in eloquent terms, looking for no event more anxiously than that improvement in the morals of politicians, which will bring effective influences to bear upon the cause of emancipation.

Rev. Dr. Bethune preached in the Twenty-first-street Reformed Dutch Church, his subject being "How to Keep a Thanksgiving Day." He selected for his text the 10th verse of the 8th chapter of Nehemiah, which is a command to the Israelites how to observe a certain festival, in spirit similar to our Thanksgiving. As it was "a holy day," he said it should be observed with divine worship; as the command was, "Neither be ye sorry, for the joy of the Lord is your strength," it should be observed with grateful joy; as the command was to "eat of the fat and drink of the sweet," it should be observed with becoming festivity; and as they were told to "send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared," it should be observed with generous charity.

Rev. Dr. Cheever's discourse was in his familiar vein of uncompromising, intense hostility to Slavery. The emancipation by England of slaves in the West Indies was elaborately eulogized. The act was pronounced the greatest triumph of right over wrong that the world has ever seen, and special emphasis was laid upon its achievement by a nation at once the most commercial and the most aristocratic on the face of the earth. Dr. Cheever viewed it in the light of a direct and powerful lesson, remarking that prophets of liberty never set a people free. John Brown played an important part in this as in many other of the sermons of the day. It is scarcely necessary to say that Dr. Cheever's heartiest sympathy was accorded to the Harper's Ferry hero. With peculiar earnestness he enunciated the doctrine that all his hearers would have acted precisely as John Brown acted, had the enslaved been white—their own relatives or friends—and challenged any man to deny that he would take up arms in such a cause.

As reasons for cheerful thanksgiving, Rev. Dr. Parker suggested the abundant harvest with which the labors of the husbandmen have been blessed, the prosperity of our commerce and manufactures, our freedom from an apprehended pestilence, and immunity from foreign wars. He thought the action of John Brown and his misguided associates entitled to the sympathy and prayers of Christians; yet, at the same time, rendering them justly liable to the penalty of death. The manner in which the affair is discussed was deprecated, as well as the intemperate language of the State of Virginia and of a portion of the public Press.

Rev. Dr. Burchard, who officiated in the Market-street Church, discoursed of the mission of the Pilgrims, contemplating his theme in its physical, educational and religious aspects. After contrasting the present condition of our country with its state when the Pilgrims landed here, and speaking of the stern adherence of our forefathers to the principles of the Bible, Dr. Burchard alluded to the great good which the Common School system had accomplished. For this we were indebted to the Puritans. The speaker, passing to the consideration of the political institutions of our country, concluded with an eloquent eulogy of their generous and enlightened character.

The subject to which Rev. Dr. Tyng addressed himself was the "relation of the Christian to the world," and, naturally, the social duties of the Christian constituted the burden of the discourse. The apostacy of the Governments of the world from the principles of true religion was indicated by reference to the war in Italy as one of ambitious self-aggrandizement, to the wars in India and China as intended to foster idolatry and the opium traffic, to the existence of Slavery in the United States as the most flagrant of social evils. The very proclamation of the Governor of New-York appointing this feast, Dr. Tyng deemed so little of a Christian utterance that it might have been as appropriately issued in Japan. As to Slavery, no one, according to the speaker, felt more strongly in opposition to it than he, or more willing to promote appropriate means of procuring its abolition. But he did not esteem it his duty to make it the unceasing subject of his pastoral labors, or to refer to it upon all occasions.

The Rev. Dr. Asa D. Smith classified among "The Perils of Our City" our prosperity, the mass of foreigners in our midst, the desecration of the Sabbath, the degradation of the Magistracy, the corruption of the young, and the comparative inertness of the Church. The City is to be saved, he believed, mainly by Church power. Dr. Smith alluded to the reproach into which the Municipal Government has fallen, and to several of the recent popular manifestations of a depraved and reckless spirit.

The City of Brooklyn was the theme of the discourse by Rev. Dr. Storrs. He dwelt upon its freedom, its grand element of Protestant Christianity, its relative position to the other cities of the world, its population, cosmopolitan to a certain extent, but American in a preponderating degree; its educational and devotional advantages, and other elements of greatness, and inferred from all these that the responsibility of citizenship was very serious, and should be so appreciated and sacredly fulfilled.

Rev. Dr. Kirke drew a picture of the circling seasons, in illustration of his text, "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness," and regarded this Thanksgiving as peculiarly appropriate to a year of mercies. While accepting the proclamation of the Powers that be as an act of public homage to religion, he could see little conformity with the moral purpose of the day in the wide license given to parties of pleasure, pageants, &c. Public worship is enjoined and blessed, and should be observed. The preacher also suggested, from the descriptions given in the Psalm from which his text was taken, our special exemption from God's three great judgments—war, pestilence and famine, and exhorted to increased trust in God and in right-doing.

In the thank offerings of the day Rev. Dr. Williams exhorted his hearers to remember the national mercies vouchsafed by Providence—the fertile soil, the rich discoveries of precious metals and minerals, and all the material benefits which they so profusely showered upon us; for our relations with other nations; and for the still larger personal mercies, some past, and some still in store.

Rev. Dr. M. S. Hutton compared this Thanksgiving with the ancient Feast of Tabernacles, and discerned a striking similarity between them. Instruction was derived from this ordinance from the fact of its divine appointment, from the duty enjoined and from the mode of its observance. This, he said, is a festival of gladness; religion was designed not to lessen our pleasures, but to sanctify and elevate them.

The Rev. Dr. Spring preached from the text, "Where is my maker that giveth songs in the night?" The subject was discussed in five divisions. In the world of nature, in the moral world, in the night of spiritual declension, and of personal religious despondency, there are songs. God gives them also in the night to the afflicted. As the discourse was delivered in the Fifth-avenue Presbyterian Church, of which the late Rev. J. W. Alexander, D. D., was pastor, a passing allusion was made to the loss which the congregation had sustained in the death of their pastor. The exciting topics of the day were not hinted at.

Rev. Dr. Alfred B. Beach defined the real nature of gratitude to God, and augured from the history of the past and the conditions of the present a brilliant future for America. He invoked woe upon the man who should entertain in his thoughts, without intense dread, the prospect of a possible dismemberment and destruction of this glorious fabric.

The Engine Companies indulged in friendly rivalry in efforts to wet the top of the Fifth Ward liberty pole; several target companies cooled their fingers by excursions to the suburbs, but returned at an early hour. The liquor shops were generally closed, and the day was signalized by quiet and good order throughout. In the evening the places of amusement were thronged.

Judge Douglas and the Presidency.—A New-York correspondent of the Mobile *Register* sends the following bit of intelligence concerning the Presidential nomination:

"One of the gentlemen at my room had left Washington only a few hours previous. He had spent some hours with Mr. Douglas. He reported the Chief calm and collected—not at all nervous about the Presidential nomination. He (Douglas) said that he was not at all anxious to be nominated at Charleston—far from it. *He believes that no other Democrat stands the greatest chance of being elected, if nominated. He does not regard his own chance of election as by any means discouraging.* The evident bitter personal, malignant hatred of the President, who has said on several occasions that he prefers Seward as his successor rather than Douglas, is discouraging, and my visitor said that he left Mr. Douglas convinced that the latter, if he saw any hope of any other Democrat being elected, if nominated, *would cheerfully withdraw his own name from the canvass of 1860!* That must not be. It would ruin and scatter us here North like a flock of sheep with the wolf amongst them."

Judge Douglas and John Brown had injured the chances of the former for the nomination very considerably. The day, we fear, has not yet come when an open, bold, straightforward proclamation of principles and policy aids a nomination for the Presidency. A candidate is sought whose views and purposes are conveniently uncertain—who has not been too prominent before the country, and who has made few enemies and offered few points for sharp assault. Judge Douglas has acted in open defiance of this time-honored custom. He has been making his peculiar platform as distinct and conspicuous as possible, and inviting attacks upon it from every quarter. He has aroused the active resentment of Southern politicians and the vigorous hatred of the Federal Administration. It would be a little singular if both had no power to prevent his nomination. The Harper's Ferry affair, moreover, has still further indisposed the South to any terms of compromise, and in their present temper the Democratic politicians of the Southern States will court defeat rather than consent to the nomination of one whom they consider so decidedly hostile to their claims as Judge Douglas.

This is the aspect of affairs just now. A month may essentially change it. If the Southern excitement subsides, and common sense resumes its sway, Southern Democrats may come to the conclusion that with any other candidate their defeat is certain—and that they have nothing whatever to gain by being beaten.

Politics in the Pulpit.

The more unreasonable alarmists among our Southern cotemporaries who have thought fit to overlook all the earnest and reiterated condemnations of John Brown's lawless foray into Virginia, with which the most influential journals of the Northern States have teemed ever since the affair at Harper's Ferry came like a thunderbolt upon the country, can hardly be expected to bestow any attention upon the voice of the New-York pulpit as it spoke upon this subject yesterday to thousands of hearers in our churches, and as it speaks to-day through our columns to the nation at large. Those who have chosen to find the real sentiment of the Northern people in the fiery paragraphs of a few reckless partisan sheets, or in the impassioned utterances of a few fanatical public speakers, will, of course, disdain to listen for a moment to the vigorous assertions of sound conservative principles, and of what may be styled the practical religion of our national politics, which were yesterday set forth with singular unanimity by clergymen of the most various theological opinions and in all quarters of the metropolis. Men of this stamp are like the extreme Abolitionists of the North; they are bent upon widening every breach which now yawns in our political system, and upon opening new ones, if possible, with each succeeding month and week of our history. They are joined unto their idols; and the best that we can do with them is to let them alone.

But all the South, we are sure, is not so passionately urgent for the dissolution of that great Empire, for whose freedom and prosperity so many grateful temple-gates were yesterday opened in South and North alike, to throngs of thankful worshipers. All the South can hardly be so earnest even in its devotion to the hope of perpetuating Federal power in a Southern hand. There must be hundreds and thousands of rational and national men in all the Southern States, who would gladly believe that this Union is not a curse that must be lifted from their lives; that they have not yet been driven to choose between dissolution and dishonor; that their fellow-citizens of the North do not hate them with the hate that comes of civil strife, or rejoice with malignant and ill-concealed delight in the disturbance of their social order, in the terror of their wives and children, in the gathering above their homes of the black clouds of servile war. To these we commend the tone and temper of the discourses which yesterday commanded the attention of the best-placed and most responsible world of New-York. It matters little in what light these discourses are regarded; whether they are conceived to represent the servility of the pulpit to public opinion, or the power of the pulpit to mould it. Those who fancy that the influence of the clergy has waned in these latter days, till the priest is become but the mouth-piece of his parish, must admit on perusing these sermons of the time, that the people of New-York demand justice for their Southern brethren as well as for themselves; that they abhor the invasion of law in Virginia equally with the invasion of law in New-York; and that nothing could be more senseless or more calumnious than the charge that upon them is laid, in any sense whatever, the initiative of that astonishing outbreak which has so shaken the South from its repose and the nation from its propriety. Those, on the other hand, who believe that the honest, honorable and able preacher has never wielded a greater power for good than now, and in this land of ecclesiastical independence, must take courage for the national future from the sight of so many prophets of patience, forbearance and fraternal good feeling, standing so openly and so warmly to their work in this great centre of Northern thought and feeling.

Especially should all loyal citizens of the South note the significant fact, that with the single exception of a certain religious orator, who professes himself to be the Hermit Peter of a new Crusade against Slavery, and thunders his anathemas from a pulpit so deserted by its native supporters that he cannot shrink from clamoring for foreign aid to bear it up a little longer none of our Metropolitan clergy were more emphatic in their denunciation of all attempts to invade the peace and outrage the honor of the South, than those who most unflinchingly maintain a public position of hostility to Slavery as an Institution. If the sincere and moderate Anti-Slavery men of the North, who unquestionably constitute a most formidable proportion of its inhabitants, were indeed the disorganizers and fanatics which the misleaders of South and North alike would have us believe, we should not find the pulpits, in which their sentiments are avowedly represented, thus earnest in proclaiming the vital laws of all Federal intercourse between equal and independent Christian States. Let the South take honest heed of this. Let Southern men who hold the solid fame of statesmanship higher than the ephemeral glow of thoughtless sectional popularity, impress this lesson on the Southern mind. The hope of the Union's safety lies herein; and the day on which we shall find the South consenting with a manly confidence to put its trust in the Conservative sincerity of Northern men who do not fear to avow the abstract opinions which they truly hold, will be the brightest which has dawned upon us since the madness of a purblind President opened the fountains of all the mischiefs and malignities which now rage about the State.

Presidential Plots.

The Richmond *Enquirer* is very much mistaken in saying that the New-York Times, among Northern journals, has seized the opportunity afforded by the Brown invasion to denounce Gov. Wise, and damage his prospects for the Presidential nomination. On the contrary we have protested most earnestly against all attempts, wherever made, to use this wild and bloody incident for the advantage of any party, or of any political aspirant. The belief that it was thus largely used in Virginia,—by her authorities and leading Presses—has drawn from us the comments which have provoked the *Enquirer's* denunciations. That paper has accused us more than once of palliating the offence of Brown—of sympathizing with his plans—of seeking on account of that sympathy to screen him from punishment, and of assailing the people of Virginia, misrepresenting their temper and making war upon their institutions.

Nothing of all this is true. We have not been able to approve of everything that has been done, under the pretext of justice, in Virginia in connection with this affair,—and we have condemned what we thought deserved censure, just as freely as we have praised what deserved applause. We have honored the vigor of Gov. Wise and the temperate firmness with which at the outset he treated the whole affair. We have commended the language and the conduct of Judge Parker on the trial, as eminently becoming a man in his position. We have no special fault to find with any feature of the trial, except, perhaps, its needless haste—and we do not entertain a shadow of doubt of the justice of the verdict, or the righteousness of the sentence pronounced upon the criminals. But we have no feeling but one of sickening loathing and contempt for the cold-blooded, cowardly ferocity which prompted Mr. Henry Hunter to shoot an unarmed, wounded, helpless, supplicating prisoner—in the arms of a noble-hearted Virginia maiden—for no other reason but the promptings of his own craven brutality; and we have no language but that of scorn and indignation for the magistrates, the Presses and the gentlemen of Virginia who give that act the indorsement of their silence. If it will lay aside its anger and its partisanship, and speak frankly what it really thinks, we believe the *Enquirer* will substantially agree with us in what we have said on each of these points.

Upon another point we do not expect its concurrence,—but in lack thereof we shall be glad of its correction. It has seemed to us that Gov. Wise and his partisans have sought to use this occurrence for purposes of sectional and of personal ambition. They have been willing and eager to make it the means of inflaming Southern hostility against the North—of feeding the fires of sectional hatred and distrust, and of thus advancing the demands of Southern ultraists, or paving the way for disunion as the alternative of their being refused. The whole affair has been managed and manipulated with an eye on the Charleston Convention. The importance of the invasion, its dangers, its preparations, its support at the North, have all been magnified and exaggerated for the purpose of over-riding the moderate men and the moderate counsels of the Southern States. In itself Brown's crusade seems contemptible,—a thing to be defeated and its perpetrators punished,—but not fit to throw a great State into profound alarm, nor to provoke an uprising of the whole South, or vast and ostentatious preparations for self-defence. It is difficult for the great body of men at the North to take any other view of it—to see it in any other light. And they attribute, therefore, most of the extraordinary movements which occur in Virginia in connection with it, to political and party purposes.

Judging from the facts before us, we believe the substantial truth of this allegation. If we are wrong the *Enquirer* can set us right. We think the active political leaders of Virginia and other Southern States, determined at the outset to use this affair to strengthen the sectional feeling of the South,—to overwhelm the conservative national sentiment, which sought harmony and counseled moderation,—to menace the North with threats of desertion, loss of trade and disunion,—to break down the Republican Party by charging upon its leaders complicity in this wicked and bloody plot, and to coerce the Charleston Convention into throwing overboard all thoughts of compromise and conciliation, and every national conservative candidate, and to nominate a distinctively Southern man on a distinct Southern platform. And, if we have not greatly misjudged its tone and tendency, the *Enquirer* has sought, steadily and zealously, to make the Harper's Ferry affair the occasion and the means for forcing Governor Wise upon the Convention as the Democratic candidate.

If we were writing in any party interest we shoul d have no right to find fault with such a movement. It is doubtless a legitimate weapon of partisan warfare. All parties, at all times, thus use whatever current events they find available for the promotion of their party plans. The Republicans used the Pro-Slavery outrages in Kansas, and the assault on Senator Sumner, in the same way—and with the same right as Southern partisans are now using the invasion at Harper's Ferry. But we look upon the matter solely in the public interest. We care nothing for its party bearings, or its personal results. We believe it clearly and disastrously hostile to the welfare of the country. We dread and deprecate the increase of sectional feeling which it will create. We deplore the weakening of national bonds—the disruption of federal confidence—the rupture of general peace and concord which it will occasion. We desire to see less sectionalism and more nationality in the Conventions which will soon meet to nominate Presidential candidates; and we cannot fail to denounce every step which seeks or threatens to weaken the national feeling, and to inflame the sectional animosity which will enter them both. If the Charleston Convention shall either yield to Southern ultraism, or break up in confusion, it will leave the Southern States at the mercy of the ultraism of the North. The conservatism of the Free States would no longer have any hold upon either party.

We do not look forward to the possibility of such an issue with composure. We feel bound to do whatever may be in our power to avert it;—and it is with this view, and in this spirit, that we have denounced the movements in Virginia which apparently aim at its consummation.

The Italian Question.

All doubts as to the substantial agreement of Victor Emanuel with Napoleon III, in his views of the Italian question, may be considered finally put at rest by the signature of the triple treaties of peace between France, Sardinia and Austria, which took place at Zurich on the 10th of November, and by the refusal of the King of Sardinia to allow his kinsman, the Prince of Savoy-Carignan, to accept the regency of Central Italy and Tuscany, proffered him by the revolutionary authorities of those States. It is to be expected, of course, that those who have persuaded themselves from the first that the Emperor of the French was the secret enemy of that Italian independence for which he has professed so much, and done so much more, should now begin to bewail the perversion of the heroic King of Sardinia into a mere tool of his wicked ally's dark designs. But this is a small matter, and of no concern, either to the present or to future times. It is much more important for us to inquire into the effect which this attitude of Victor Emanuel is likely to produce upon the public opinion of Europe, and consequently upon the fortunes of Italy. For it is quite idle to deny that the fortunes of Italy do still depend in a very important degree upon the public opinion of Europe.

Our English cousins, who were always as lavish of gallant advice as they were chary of practical services to the Italians in the long dark years of Austrian domination, are quite clamorous now in behalf of Italian rights, as paramount to all other considerations of diplomacy, and cannot find words strong enough to express their sense of the capacity of Italy for managing her own affairs. This is certainly a very satisfactory change from the tone adopted by the English Government and the English Press in dealing with the Italian question before the peace of Villafranca. Then the settlement of Italy was an European question which it was the height of ambitious insolence for France to take into her own hands; and however strong the claims of Italy might be to the disposal of her own destinies, Italians were bidden to remember that their rulers had been imposed upon them by Europe, in Congress at Vienna, and that only by Europe in Congress could any fundamental changes be made or sanctioned, if the pillars of public law were to be left standing in the earth for the safety of the nations. All this is altered now; and an English Minister of State, Sir George Cornwall Lewis, publicly announces that England will look calmly on upon the demolition of the work of Castlereagh without putting a hand to the task, unless the postulate of Italian independence shall be conceded to her before any Congress is convened. The declaration is hardly diplomatic, perhaps hardly fair or considerate to the other Powers concerned, but not, therefore, the less agreeable to the general predispositions of all lovers of liberty.

Nevertheless, the question of Italy remains what it was when Count Cavour urged it, in vain, upon Europe, at the Congress of Paris; what it was when Napoleon III. took it solemnly up with Austria, after England had flatly declined to aid him in urging its solution; what it was when Austria summoned her ancient allies, of 1815, to support her in maintaining what had been their own views of its nature and its requirements; what it was when Solferino was fought and won, and when at Villafranca the victorious French Sovereign refused to imperil any further the interests of France upon an issue not essentially French, and Francis Joseph, on his part, made up his mind to risk no more for a theory which its own chief authors declined any longer to acknowledge. The Question of Italy is still an European question. It is still a matter of importance to the whole of Europe to know what disposal is to be made of the vast force, for evil or for good, which sleeps in the populations of this glorious Peninsula. It might be very satisfactory for France to see Central Italy erected into an independent State at the expense of that weakest and yet most troublesome of princes, the Pope; or to see Sardinia swollen by accretions from all the lesser Italian States into a Power of the first class. It might be very satisfactory to Austria to see Italian sovereigns of one blood with the Hapsburgs reinstated in their thrones, and a new era of Austrian influence over Italy, more subtle but not less sure than of old, begun again under the forms of a feigned independence. Or it might be very satisfactory to the Italian people to eject all thrones and principalities together from their borders, and to constitute a new Italian Republic on the ideal model of Mazzini. But such are the actual relations of the European States that neither France nor Austria, nor the Italian people, can undertake to accomplish a complete political reconstruction of this important part of the Continent without the sanction of European public law, deliberately uttered through its recognized authorities. The course of Victor Emanuel clearly shows that he recognizes the weight of this great practical fact. No rational man can question the patriotism of the Sardinian ruler. He would doubtless rejoice to see himself hailed by Europe as the King of a United Italy, on nobler grounds than those of a mere personal or dynastic ambition. But he is too sensible a man not to see that such a result as this is not to be reached at a bound, by overleaping all the legitimate opposition which may yet be offered to the annihilation of political arrangements which Europe has once sanctioned, and which can only now be overthrown at the hazard of an immediate renewal of the calamities of war. It is to be hoped that the Italians of Central Italy may be patriotic, wise and patient enough to appreciate the true position of the Sardinian King. They should remember that Austria is still a great Power in Europe; that Venetia is still an Austrian province; that the Papal authority has still a formidable following throughout the Continent; and that it is infinitely more important for them to organize substantially the independence they have already gained than to risk the all-important present in pressing too eagerly forward towards the brilliant future which they discern so clearly as perhaps to be in danger of underrating the distance which still separates them from its golden realities.

A Cry for Help.—Ex-Mayor Wood has made the strongest possible confession of his own weakness among the honest portions of the community, by nominating Judge Emott on his ticket for Corporation Counsel. Nothing but the most urgent necessity could have compelled him to such a step. He evidently feels the importance of strengthening himself by such adventitious aid, with the respectable men of the Democratic Party.

The fact is, Mr. Wood enters upon this contest under discouraging circumstances. He is repudiated by the regular organization of his own party, and is nominated only by a personal faction which he has been diligently engaged in building up for such uses ever since his previous defeat. A year ago he successfully

Mayors—Present and Future.

The *Tribune* is greatly alarmed lest we should have "another Fireman administration" inflicted upon the City. It seems quite inclined to go further and fare a great deal worse. Even Fernando Wood's fresh accession to power seems in its eyes quite a minor calamity, and it cheerfully incurs all the risks of such a result by zealously diverting votes from the only candidate who can prevent Wood's election.

The *Tribune*, in our judgment, does gross injustice to Mayor Tieman. That evils have continued to exist under his administration, is perfectly true; but it is not just or fair to charge the responsibility for them upon him,—still less to withhold from him credit for the palpable and unquestionable benefits which his administration has conferred upon the City. He has certainly saved the City immense expenditures by his vetoes, and has administered his department of the City Government in a spirit of straightforward honesty and integrity worthy of all commendation. He may have listened to bad advisers, and, in the necessity forced upon him of securing support in other departments of the City Government, he may have yielded unduly to the pressure of party interests. The *Tribune* complains that he has conceded more to Democrats than to Republicans in the matter of patronage. This may or may not be so; but in either case it does not warrant the sweeping censure which the *Tribune* passes upon his administration. We believe Mayor Tieman has given us the example of a perfectly honest and upright Chief Magistrate. That any one can regret his election, who bears in mind that he defeated Fernando Wood, is certainly somewhat remarkable.

The *Tribune* scouts the notion, that Republicans should vote for a Democratic nominee,—because the favor is never returned. If the election were a matter of etiquette, or of party favor, the plea would be valid. But what have these paltry considerations to do with the issue whether we shall have an honest or a dishonest City Government? Who cares whether Democrats are less generous or less just in exchanges of this sort, than Republicans, or not? The main question is, how can we secure the best possible administration of our City affairs. How can we do most to prevent peculation, plunder, the degradation of the City Magistracy and the prostitution of public power to the basest ends of personal and partisan ambition? This is what every citizen should do at the coming election,—no matter to what political party he may belong, nor what ill-manners his political opponents may sometimes be guilty of.

There are two ways of striving to elect Fernando Wood; one is by voting for him and advocating his election openly; the other is by dividing the vote of his opponents. Both aim at and lead to the same result. Both, we trust, will prove unsuccessful. The practical choice lies between Mr. Wood and Mr. Havemeyer. No other candidate has any hope of success; and no other, who appreciates the importance of the election, should permit his name to be used so as to increase the chances of a result at once disastrous and disgraceful to the City.

The Common Council.

We concur heartily in the advice to look carefully after the character of the new Common Council. Every friend of City reform should bear in mind that the legislation of the City rests in the hands of the Aldermen and Councilmen—that the Mayor can take very little positive action himself, and that two-thirds of those bodies can override his veto, and render him utterly powerless for the prevention of wrong.

It will be remembered, that in all our reforms of the City Charter, one point has always been guarded with jealous care by the Common Council. They have always retained in their own hands *the final power over all City contracts.* Everything else they have been comparatively willing to surrender. They have cared but little for changes in their number, for loss of the appointing power, or for any other alteration affecting their technical powers and dignity. But they have held tenaciously to the right of confirming contracts. No contract for City work can take effect without the approval of the Common Council. Whenever it has been proposed to touch this power, delegations have been sent to Albany, at the expense of the City, to protest against it. Every possible influence has been arrayed to secure its defeat; and in the end it has always failed.

The reason of this is obvious enough. It is through the Contract system that venal members make their money. They share with those to whom they give the contracts the profits of them. It is very well understood, moreover, that there has long been in the Board a regularly organized band of men, who vote together on all questions involving money, and who regularly override all action of the Mayor designed to check their depredations upon the public treasury. It would be very easy, by collating the records of the two Boards during the past year, and by analyzing every vote in which members uniformly voted together, to find what members uniformly voted together in all such cases, and thus to define the boundaries of this venal phalanx within the Boards.

We trust that our citizens will take good care, in voting for Aldermen and Councilmen, to select the best men, regardless of their party names or political relations. Political differences have nothing whatever to do with our City Government. Members of the Common Council themselves make out the least account of them when once in office. Dishonest, scheming, venal men of all parties vote together, and in delightful harmony when their schemes require it.

BOOKSELLER INTELLIGENCE.

FIRE IN A LUMBER-YARD.—A little after 3 o'clock yesterday morning, a fire was discovered in the yard of North River-street, E. D., owned and occupied by Messrs. Slater & Baker. The yard, with the sheds, piles, very heavily insured, and the fire is framed by a fierce, heavy, quick extended to a large quantity of lumber in the yard adjoining, nearly of the ground, and worked well into the yard. There were several engines in service, and the fire was got under control about 6 o'clock. The loss is estimated at $10,000, worth of lumber in the yard, but was insured for $6,000 in the Williamsburgh City Insurance Company. The fire is supposed to have been accidental.

A CASE.—Mrs. ANNE SMALL, of Cleveland, Ohio, is a widow, and resided a mile to 10 Cleveland, No. 7, of Seventh-st., Williamsburgh City. Caution to the Secretary, Jones Point, Cleveland, Ohio.

Commercial Advertiser—Nos. 83, 108, 137, 156, 164 of the Courier Calendar, Nos. 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69,

THANKSGIVING SERMONS.

[Given yesterday from Third Page.]

DUTIES AND MOTIVES TO GRATITUDE.

REV. JOHN M. REESE, D. D.

SECOND-AVENUE CHURCH (O. S. PRESBYTERIAN.)

Psalms, lxv: 2—Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.

The beautiful and bountiful procession of the seasons, in like the progress of some magnificent pageant, through its dominions. The bleak and barren Winter throws off his snowy mantle and withers before the genial influence of Spring; and when, in turn, the splendid Summer appears in all the pomp of groves and parterres of fields," everywhere the path of God drops fatness. His way through the "year of his goodness" is strewed with food and gladness; as He lingers on the train of the succeeding months, each seems like a joyous festival, ornamented with bedding promise, herb, and flower and fruit, until, at length, gathering the plenteous spoils of Autumn, loaded with the treasures of the garner and the cellar of the feast, and the wassail bowl, he comes in imperial state, bearing upon his brow the holy joy of harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the temple of the year is celebrated and solemnized the realization of the promise of the fruits of the earth. The men of the promised Israelite to offer thanksgiving when he surveyed the year with his goodness.

Such is with us the annual story of beneficence and blessing. Yet there is sometimes a signal illustration of the goodness of God to His land—a peculiar superposition and marked kindness which stands out in contrast with preceding aspects of His providence. The margin reads, "The year of thy goodness," as if succeeding years were less distinguished for the manifestations of such a divine beneficence. And thus, while we have had continual reason to rejoice in the review of perennial blessings varied and innumerable, there may be the recurrence of particular seasons when the peculiar exhibitions of the divine goodness to us would demand a special recognition and special tokens of rejoicing, thankfulness and prayer. These are years of the right hand of the Most High.

Perhaps there is something of this in the circumstances in which we meet. Year after year we have had abundant reason for the annual acknowledgment. Our land, our liberty, our privileges, our religious and civil institutions, our advancement in education, and invention, our social enjoyments and domestic comforts, our measure of temporal blessings of life and health and food, our means of grace and holy hope of salvation, our peace and union as a Church, and all our opportunities of serving our generation by the will of God, all suggested prolific themes of comment, and the enumeration of constant and regular mercies in healthful succession, and the inculcation of personal and public duty. Yet, even if there is no change in the theme, no special recognition, no striking contrast requiring us to vary the expression, the very uniformity of God's bounty which makes us most apt to forget it, ought rather to stimulate our remembrance and devout acknowledgment. We ought not to require any extraordinary occasion to this duty, in remarkable phases and appearances of Providence. Nevertheless, the review of so important a period of our lives as any one whole year, will furnish some reminiscences that are peculiar to ourselves amid its most ordinary experiences; while it may be, that, aside from these, are extraordinary, or, at least, more obvious and striking intimations of heavenly favor,—in recoveries from painful or dangerous sickness, in deliverances from imminent peril, in the achievement of successes, in the multiplication of our comforts, and in manifold consolations in our times of sorrow and bereavement. All such experiences justify that rendering of the text which makes it expressive of some singular and supreme manifestation of God's loving kindness and tender mercy, as compared with the experiences of others, or with our own experience in former times. Each of us may say, as for ourselves and our portion: "Thou crownest the year of thy goodness."

Without inserting too strongly on this distinction, we may nevertheless advert to some particulars suggested by the whole Psalm, which may serve to illustrate our obligations to a thankful remembrance of the goodness of God toward ourselves, while we assent to the propriety of that recommendation of our rulers which invites us to think of God's lovingkindness in the midst of His temples.

It is not in my heart to disparage the thoughtful consideration of the powers that be, in making proclamation for the observance of this day of Thanksgiving. We accept it as an act of public homage to religion. Yet, I must be permitted to say that, like the perversion of the Sabbath to mere amusement and dissipation, the avoidance of the house of God by the multitude of pleasure-seekers, and by all who choose this day, or any other religious festival, for extraordinary attraction to the drinking saloons and the theatres,—for special railroad and steamboat excursions,—for military reviews, firemen's parades, and target companies' processions and practice, and for tempting crowds of thoughtless, frivolous, and idle persons to see the show, does not seem to me in happiest conformity with the avowed design of appointing the day, and inviting the people not only to cease from their usual labor and employment, but to worship and praise Almighty God in public ascriptions of praise and thanksgiving. And the example of those high dignitaries of State or City who patronize the vain displays which attract the populace from God's worship in His sanctuary, can hardly be expected to beget in the minds of the masses any enthusiastic reverence for the very pious recommendation they have proclaimed and indorsed.

I. The Psalm, first of all, distinctly suggests God's praise, in and for the goodness of His house, even of His holy temple. Public worship is enjoined; and the Divine injunction and precept know nothing of that hypocritical pretence which disparages the day and the ordinances of God, on the plea that a visit to the fields, and streams, and open sky, invite to a better contemplation of Him, and promote a sincere worship. It is rather to be feared that precious little Divine knowledge is thus gained, and that bodily health and pure morals and good prosperity are not remarkably improved. Praise waits for God in Zion—in the assembly of His saints. There God is declared in His word and made known in His grace and truth in Jesus Christ. Praise is a revealed duty in view of a revealed God and Saviour. God in Christ is the only appropriate object of worship, obedience, trust, enjoyment, love and praise. He is the hearer of prayer, and all flesh must come to Him through the propitiation of Christ. Our encouragement to draw nigh to Him, notwithstanding our crushing iniquities, arises from the propitiation of His Son Jesus Christ. The power of the cross is manifest in comforting the sinful conscience, and in drawing the heart to faith, and love, and repentance. His service is cheerfulness and joy. The evangelical scheme is dispensed by many, but its result is God's highest glory and man's highest good, and its method is the only power that brings the stranger back to God as His portion, and conforms him to the divine image he had lost. These are evil times when such piety is contemned by the humanitary preferences of an unbelieving age. They undeify the gospel, and set up in the place of God an idol, a philosophical phantom, a dim effluence, rising from the depraved and darkened heart, a huge likeness of itself, to rival God who is a spirit, to be worshiped in spirit and in truth, to obscure his personality as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to undervalue the atonement of His Son. Let us cling to the faith of that cross, make it our hope, and the argument and motive of all true beneficence.

II.—The remainder of the psalm brings before our view the defence and prosperity vouchsafed to us by our Almighty God.

Verses 5—8 are a splendid description of His power and of the dependence and subjection of all creatures. He planted the mountains, controls the seas, and rules the turbulent nations. He is the God of grace; but he is also the great and dreadful God. He answers prayer by "terrible things in righteousness." His past recorded providence shows that He will avenge His elect, in redeeming them with desolating judgments upon their foes. He has an account yet to settle with anti-Christian, persecuting nations, for the oppression of his heritage. We do not pretend to unfold the dark sayings of prophecy. The day will declare it. But coming events cast their shadows before. That prayer is still going up, until the time of its fulfilment shall be complete:

"Avenge, O Lord, thy slaughtered saints whose bones
Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold;
Even them who kept thy truth so pure of old,
When all our fathers worshiped stocks and stones,
Forget not; in thy book record their groans
Who were thy sheep, and in their ancient fold
Slain by the bloody Piedmontese that rolled
Mother with infant down the rocks. Their moans
The vales redoubled to the hills, and they
To Heaven. Their martyred blood and ashes sow
O'er all the Italian fields, where still doth sway
The triple tyrant; that from these may grow
A hundred fold, who having learned thy way,
Early may fly the Babylonian woe."

Kings and Cabinets make alliances and wars for their own purposes. But God has his purposes. What mean the unsettled and uneasy truces that leave affairs in such condition that no man can tell where or how soon revolutionary fury may break out of the volcano?—what new and surprising combinations may be formed—while diplomatists are perplexed and Peace-Congresses are an abortion, and the world's hope and heart are aghast? The tides of war roll over lands where Christ's vain's were shut up and slaughtered—and the devouring sword may yet return to drink the blood of them who wield it. Certain it is that there will be a day of retribution, when Christ shall come to judge the world.

Even his own people are visited with corrections, and with them there is conviction that is relieved by faith and penitence. But He who fixed the everlasting hills and established this throne upon the floods will confirm the hopes of His people by these illustrations of His power, and His gracious power shall teach the world from rising to setting sun to acknowledge His truth, to fear His name, and to give Him praise forever.

Verses 9 and 13 are a magnificent description of that glad plenty with which the goodness and power of God fill the earth. He replenishes the streams; He pours out the treasures of the clouds; he clothes the pastures with fatness; and valley and hill smile with tillage and fertility.

All this display suggests to us our special exemption from God's three great judgments—war, pestilence and famine. Where are, indeed, among us, ambitious and scheming politicians, ready to plunge us into war, and fanatical extremists, North and South, who overturning cause the ruin of our country, but the sober sense and patriotism of the bulk of our people, under God's overruling care, have hitherto defeated the counsels of our crafty Achithophels. Our trust is in God that it shall ever be these. With public health and teeming harvests—religious privilege and blessing—a holy Sabbath and a holy Bible, and new proofs of the determined spirit of our intelligent people to defend these public and household blessings and bulwarks of religion and liberty, against the insolent demands of aliens and strangers, God has crowned the year with his goodness. Let us not attribute His work to second causes, to agents and instruments. Trust in Him, and do good, and ye dwell in the land and verily thou shalt be fed. Rejoice before Him with thankfulness. Show gratitude in helping the weary, clothing the naked, and feeding the hungry, and teaching the ignorant, and rescuing the vicious. And so let all His goodness lead to repentance, unto eternal life, through the faith of God's dear Son.

SPECIAL TOPICS FOR THANKS.

REV. WM. R. WILLIAMS, D. D.

AMITY-STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Amity-street Baptist Church was about one-quarter filled yesterday morning. After the customary preliminary services, Dr. WILLIAMS took his text from the 116th Psalm:

"O, what shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?"

This, he thought, was a fitting question to be asked on an occasion like the present. There was something touching in the spectacle of a community called by their civil magistrate to recognise God's kindness in the year gone by. Above all they ought to be thankful for the existence of God, for even His abdication had been predicted by a French skeptic, who said: "The time has at length arrived when humanity substitutes itself definitively for God." It was a wiser and more practical mind—even that of the victor of Waterloo—that said in one of his three letters from the field of battle: "I have escaped—the finger of Providence was upon me." Providence was the mightiest worker; God was as truly first now, as in the days of the flood. They should remember in the first place national mercies—what God had done for the country as a whole—as a collection of individuals. They should be thankful for the character of the soil, for its agricultural and mineral wealth, for the stores of gold which had been recently discovered on our western shores, and for all the material benefits which God had bestowed in the construction of the earth, and through the instrumentality of man. They should not forget their constitutional and colonial history; how much they were indebted to those whose race is ended; how that God had recently rescued the commerce of the country from destruction, and preserved the Union, despite the tugging at the bonds. Let them hope that God would continue to do for the children as he had done for the fathers.

They had to be thankful for their relations with other nations. How different would it have been had results in Europe and Asia been different? On the part of many Catholics there had been a hope that Britain's rule in India would be broken. How deplorable would have been the result, and that rule been destroyed, and that country closed against Protestant influence, or the Christian missionary? And so in the case of the French interference in the political condition of Italy, had Austria triumphed, the Pope been rendered supreme, and Sardinia no more remained the refuge of the oppressed, or the home of toleration, how different the aspect! And in times gone by, had Russia been successful in establishing the Greek Church in Turkey, how could Protestant missions there have been continued? Did not the opening of China and Japan show that God had wrought wonders? True, they had cause for alarm. The extent of pauperism in New-York State was shown to be greater in proportion than that of England or Wales. It could not be claimed that this pauperism was imported, for a large proportion of it was native born. Then look at the state of our political parties, the extent of venality and shameless corruption of many of the public men! It could not be disputed that Pagan Rome did not know—did not tolerate so shameful and corrupt a state of venality as in these United States of Christian America, in the nineteenth century is tolerated. It was a lamentable state of facts, which should demand the attention of Christian men. Yet these were evidences of God's grace to us as a nation—the pouring out of God's spirit over the country until it had reached Ireland, Turkey, and far India. God was to be remembered for all these things, among evangelical Christians.

But there were personal mercies to be thankful for, far larger than national mercies—mercies to come, as well as those that were passed. Did any of them despond, and see gloomy prospects in the future, let them see to it that they did not form an unjust judgment of God's mercy. What should they render to God for his mercies? God asked a recompense. When they offered to him the outpourings of a grateful heart, God smiled at the sacrifice, and was well pleased with the affection of the people. They should thank Him for all days of his mercy, render Him spiritual worship, honor Him with their substance in the first offerings of their increase, seek advancement in his graces, help their suffering fellow-men—especially on such a day as this—sustain the Christian Church, and honor its ordinances. What darkness would result were the sun taken from the solar system, and into what incomprehensible despair would the world be plunged were God to be withdrawn? God was willing to be their counselor. Did they ask what they should give to God for national and social blessings? God's first response was, "Give me thy hand." God could make them whole. Let them give themselves up to him, and say, "Speak, Lord, thy servant heareth."

THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

REV. STEPHEN H. TYNG, D. D.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

St. George's Church, Stuyvesant Square, was yesterday well filled, though considerably fewer persons than the ordinary Sabbath congregation were present. The regular service of the Episcopal Church, with additions appropriate to Thanksgiving Day, having been solemnized, the pastor, Rev. Dr. TYNG, preached a sermon on "the relation of the Christian to the World," taking for his text the sixth verse of the second Psalm—"Yet have I set my King upon my holy hill of Zion. The King—the monarch of the kingdom here alluded to—by all prophecy, by all Scripture, was Jesus Christ. This kingdom was the subject of Divine purpose and Divine decree—the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the earth. As such it was a subject appropriate for the day of thanksgiving. The kingdom of Christ upon earth was not the kingdom of man; had no relation thereto; was everywhere presented in hostility to it. The kingdom of Christ and the kingdoms of the world every where manifested actual opposition to each other. The kingdoms of the world were always an organized apostacy, and there was not a government on earth at this day which was consonant with Christianity. God's glorious revelations of redeeming love were suffered, and protected, in more or less public profession, in all Christian countries; but where was the nation on earth that made the word or rule of Christ its law? Britain and America, as nations, might be selected as the most civilized on earth; yet they did not regard the divine authority as the infallible rule of their government. The advance of civilization had led to no advance in the acknowledgment of God as the head of all governments, or the principle that God's law should be acknowledged as the only law of human dominion. Was it acknowledged in the Parliament of Great Britain, or the Congress of the United States? In the times of Jonah and Daniel, it was more acknowledged than at the present day. Apostacy rules now in the most renowned nations of the earth. There was a separation on principle, from God and His Christ, acknowledging no aid in human authority beyond the protection of man in his outward interests. We might survey historic testimony from the first governmental establishment of man on earth. One pervading principle has animated the governments of man, whatever their name; the exclusion, namely, of God from his own world, establishing idolatry, sometimes bearing direct hostility to the Word of God—only acknowledging it where it might be profitable for temporal interests, renouncing everything and anything else. In the present age what do we see in the most enlightened governments? One waging a bloody war on foreign soil for the purposes merely of aggrandizement. Another compelling its officers and subjects to protect and assist idolatry, heathen worship, in facts, and in China encouraging the opium trade. Another, existing under a Constitution regarded as the freest yet known to the world, committed to the slavery of man—denying the rights of man to an oppressed race—holding them in perpetual bondage, forgetful that that race was equally with themselves purchased by the redeeming blood of the Son of God! All of them licensing public drunkenness, public licentiousness and public gambling!

We are assembled to-day, proceeded the reverend doctor, under the authority of a proclamation, in which not one syllable—except a word or two at the close—intimates that we are a Christian people. In the proclamation of the Governor of the State, announcing to-day as a day of general Thanksgiving, there is nothing, so far as our character as a religious people is concerned, that would not be equally appropriate in China. If these things are done in the green tree, need we stop to consider what will be done in the dry? or what are the relations of men ministering these principles of Government, to the Ruler on the holy hill of Zion?

In the midst of this organized apostacy, God has set up a kingdom of his own, over which he is to rule forever and break in pieces the combined power of the kings and governors of the world. From the time that the pure theocracy of Israel was broken up and its subjects sent into captivity in Babylon, the people of the living God were scattered, living as individuals among the nations; not of the nations, but among them. For 2,500 years this has been the history of the Church of God and its relation to the governments of men, owning another King than the world acknowledges, with other guidance than the laws and statutes of men. In early Christian times God's people were wandering exiles; in later ages they were sheltered in the valleys of the Alps, or in Western wildernesses or Eastern deserts, while the Apostate Power was sitting in the temple of God dooming his children to death and destruction. The sixteenth century of the Christian era inaugurated a system that gave protection to God's people, but in no kingdom of the world has the Son of God been ruler. Christianity has been tolerated, partially protected and defended, but never in obedience to God, but for the better sustaining human rights and interests. The very principle is avowed that human Governments must not interfere about religion, so long as men do not violate the outward requirements of society. Nothing more is shown towards Christianity than respect for it. And this is the highest civilization upon the earth! The Church of God is still in captivity. The more Governments neglect the authority of God, so much the more do they appear to be esteemed by the world. The Kingdom of Christ is yet in the keeping of individuals alone. The hill of Zion has not yet received the glorious throne. Yet a day is rapidly approaching when the kingdom of the world shall become the Kingdom of God and His Christ, when the King upon the holy hill of Zion shall rule over all the earth. It will happen in His own time, in His own way, by the instrumentality of such as He shall choose, but still that great day shall come the Church of Christ will remain in captivity.

In considering the matter of the Christian towards the world, the reverend Doctor gave several illustrations, the most noticeable of which had reference to the great subject which is agitating the country at the present day—African Slavery. He would not for a moment consent to view it as a domestic institution, or as a local institution, or as a shape of patriarchal servitude, or by any other mild designation used to cover up a hideous sin. He regarded it in his inmost soul as an enormous system of injustice and cruelty; in its political aspect, as a hideous deformity on the nation; viewed in its financial bearing, as a gross and costly waste. Every principle of Christian duty led him to testify against its atrocities. As an American citizen, he had a right to oppose its extension, laboring peacefully to that end, and for its utter abolition. As a Christian he had a right to express his opinion on the subject in every proper shape and on every suitable occasion. He felt that his duty compelled him to regard it as an unrighteous persecution, but it was not his duty to make it the unceasing subject of his pastoral labors, referring to it on all times and occasions. As a Christian it was not his duty to make it the subject of scarcity or denunciation or ribaldrous reproach. As an American citizen, he had no right to encourage sectional animosity. He would not do evil that good might come—he would not violate the peace of God and man—would never give his sanction to any violence or tumult, would take no sword but the sword of the spirit. And he could no more justify in others than in himself a violence and bloodshed from which his soul shrank back in abhorrence. He could not be a partaker in other men's sins, even if the object was to give liberty to his enslaved fellow-man. I avow, added the Doctor, precisely what I have admitted, and I care not where I have stated. As a subject of the King of Zion, I must remain always on his side. The day will come when the patient sufferer of wrong will be better than the wrong-doer. Meanwhile, they that take the sword must perish by the sword.

At the close of the sermon a collection for charitable purposes, in accordance with the rule of the Church on Thanksgiving Day, was taken up, and after the benediction the congregation dispersed.

ORDINANCE OF THANKSGIVING.

REV. MANCIUS S. HUTTON, D. D.

CHURCH ON WASHINGTON-SQUARE.

"Thou shalt observe the feast of Tabernacle seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine. And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow that are within thy gates. Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose; because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice."—*Deuteronomy, 16th chapter, from 13th to 16th verse.*

The feast of Tabernacles, so called because it was kept under green tents or arbors, was one of the three great festivals in which Israel was obliged to appear before God.

It was celebrated after the harvest, and was designed not only as a memorial of their manner of life while in the wilderness, but to return thanks to God for the fruits of the earth.

The time when this ordinance was to be observed, (when the fruits of the earth had been gathered,) and its design and nature, to return thanks to God by a joyful, national and social partaking of a feast, bring it into close and striking similarity with our annual Thanksgiving Day, and shows us that the free-hearted, uncommanded observance of the day by us cannot but be pleasing in the sight of God.

In endeavoring, then, to aid you in fulfilling the duties of the day, I derive instruction from this ordinance.

First—In the fact of its Divine appointment: We have in this fact that God, who is a spirit, and demands spiritual worship, has, notwithstanding, appointed certain rites and ceremonies—a proof of the value and importance of observing a day of Thanksgiving. We all feel some sense of gratitude for mercies received, but there is a tendency in our minds to forget the Divine hand in relation to regular and constant blessings; hence there can be no question that the most grateful among us will have our gratitude increased and our sense of Divine dependence deepened by a proper performance of the duties of the day. As we recall our mercies—the peace, health, prosperity, &c.—we must feel a warmer sense of gratitude than we would have done had we not been thus summoned before God. But in the fact that God appointed such seasons we have more than a mere proof of the value and propriety of such observances—we have an evidence of the love and regard of God, and of his desire to continue to us our blessings, for both his dealings with the nations and the declarations of his word show that the most certain way of having our blessings continued and increased is to acknowledge and adore the Divine hand; while, on the contrary, forgetfulness of God as surely brings destruction.

Secondly—I find instruction from the duty enjoined in this ordinance. Thou shalt rejoice in thy feast—rejoice in the Lord as the author of all our temporal blessings. From the very nature of creatureship, praising God as the author of all his mercies is the creature's highest and noblest condition; hence Heaven is all praise, and God is himself said to be glorified thereby—and the neglect of the duty is spoken of as the most decided mark of an ungodly state.

Thirdly—Instruction may be derived from the mode in which this ordinance was to be observed. *It was to be enjoyed as a festival of gladness.* One of the most serious libels on religion is that it is cold to be a thing of gloom and sadness. Religion was designed not to lessen our pleasures, but to sanctify and elevate them. The Jews had many joyous *feasts* among their appointed rites—and the direction of the New Testament is to rejoice always, and to refuse no creature of God, but to receive it with thanksgiving. The next thing to be noticed in the mode of observing this ordinance is its family and social character: "Thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou and thy son and thy daughter, and thy man-servant and thy maid-servant." We see another illustration here of God's regard for the family circle, and of the duty of parents to have their households share in their religious blessings, and the importance of family religion. There yet remains another duty to be mentioned as part of the observance of a Thanksgiving Day, and that is the injunction that the stranger, the fatherless and the widow should be made to share in our rejoicing.

THE INSTITUTIONS YESTERDAY.

THE FESTIVAL AT THE FIVE POINTS.

Thanksgiving was observed in the usual manner, but with more than customary interest, at the benevolent institutions of the Five Points. The appeals for food and other necessary articles were generously responded to by their old friends, and upon the long list of donors, particularly to the Ladies' Mission, were found the names of many strangers, who, for the first time, availed themselves of the luxury of making glad the hearts of the little ones who were there grouped together for shelter, support and education, so that there was an abundance of everything required.

At the House of Industry some three hundred children, composed about equally of the inmates and of the destitute children of the locality, were gathered into the Chapel, where they sang hymns and patriotic songs, and were addressed by MATTHEW HALE SMITH, and others. The tables, which were loaded with everything to tempt the appetite and please the eye of childhood, were spread in the two dining-rooms, and, after the exercises in the Chapel, were eagerly surrounded, each child taking a place, standing. The visitors were so numerous that they filled up the passage-ways and blockaded the doors so that it was difficult to move about. The children, however, paid little attention to the strange but kind faces which everywhere greeted them, but ate with avidity the good things set before them. When they had finished they all marched back to the Chapel at the tap of the drum; the tables were reset, and the parents of the children who were known to be deserving were also invited in, and partook of a good dinner. In this manner some six hundred were bountifully supplied during the afternoon. The remainder of the day and evening was spent in the Chapel. Addresses were delivered by JOSIAH HOSEA, Rev. Mr. PADDOCK, and others, interspersed with singing. At the Five Points Mission, on the opposite side of the way, the children of the Sabbath and day schools entertained their numerous visitors with singing, addresses and recitations, until about 4½ o'clock P. M., when they were conducted to the adjoining hall, where tables were spread for nearly five hundred children. Provision was made, however, for about twelve hundred, who were fed at these tables during the afternoon and evening. Over three hundred dollars in cash was received by the Treasurer. There were numerous volunteer waiters both of ladies and gentlemen from among the friends of the Mission.

At the Home for the Friendless there were some fifteen hundred visitors during the day, and rising $400 was realised from donations and the sale of articles. The exercises, which were of an interesting character, consisted of singing, recitations by the children, and addresses by Rev. Mr. HOSA, Rev. J. POSTER, LUCIUS HARE and others. About fifty thousand copies of the *Advocate* and *Guardian* are now issued monthly from this institution, the entire composition, proof-reading and other labor, excepting the press-work, being performed by girls at the Home.

AT THE ISLANDS.

The appropriations made by the Board of Governors for the purpose, provided the means of an excellent entertainment which was set before the boys on Randall's Island, the inmates of Ward's Island Hospital, and the inmates of the Insane Asylum, all which was enjoyed with infinite gusto by the respective recipients. Govs. BRENNINGHAUSEN and PINCKNEY, with a party of friends, visited the islands, and enjoyed the day and the dinner with their beneficiaries. The occasion passed off with great pleasure to all concerned.

THE NEWSBOYS' LODGING HOUSE.

The newsboys had a good time on Thanksgiving Day. More than seventy sat down to a dinner of roast beef and turkey, after which a pile of plum and sweet-cake was distributed among them, and an ample supply of apples. The walls of the Newsboys' Lodging House were hung with newspapers and appropriate mottoes, among which "Welcome to our Friends—Honesty is the Best Policy," was the most conspicuous. They enjoyed the day and the dinner very much, and were grateful to the friends who had provided it for them.

An unusual number of target companies were out, who left the City at an early hour for their favorite places of rendezvous. Among others was a large company of ship-carpenters from the neighborhood of Dry-Dock, newly formed, who proceeded to Conrad's Park. The weather, however, was too cold to render the amusement agreeable for a lengthy sojourn, and they mostly returned at an early hour, to enjoy their Thanksgiving turkey nearer home.

Stray parties also spent the day in uncomfortable rambles through the neighboring woods, in search of small game, but found little to repay them for their cold fingers and unsatisfactory tramp. The liquor-shops were generally closed, there were very rare cases of intoxication to be seen, and the day was as quiet as a Sabbath. In the evening, the various places of amusement were well patronized, while the more quiet enjoyed the evening in a social re-union after the New-England fashion.

THANKSGIVING ABROAD.

THE DAY IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Thursday, Nov. 24.

The time-honored festival of Thanksgiving received universal observance in Boston to-day, as usual. The weather was very pleasant.

THE DAY IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, Nov. 24.

Thanksgiving Day has been very generally observed by suspension of business. Two Regiments of military paraded, and all places of amusement were thronged this evening.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS COOK, BY A RESpectable woman, who has lived for several first-class families in this City; is perfectly competent to fulfill the duties of a first-class cook, and pastry cook in any gentleman's family; would not object to assist in washing and ironing, but prefers a regular cook's place. Apply at No. 64 West 18th-st., between 6th and 7th avs., two doors from 6th-av.

WANTED—SITUATIONS BY TWO RESPECTAble young women; one to cook, wash and iron; the other to do chamber-work and waiting. Both are fully competent to fill their situations. Can give the most satisfactory reference; have lived two and three years in their last place. Call, for two days, at No. 209 East 28th-st.

WANTED—TWO RESPECTABLE YOUNG WOmen wish situations; one as cook, and the other as waitress, or would do chamber-work and fine washing; perfectly understand their business, and can come well recommended from their last place; have no objection to go to the country. Can be seen for two days at No. 94 West 24th-st.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A RESPECTABLE young woman as cook in a respectable private family; can be perfectly understanded by her to cook poultry and game, and all kinds of desserts; also pickling and preserving; can give the best of City reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 216 West 26th-st., between 6th and 9th avs., third floor, back room.

WANTED—A SITUATION TO COOK, WASH OR iron; understands her business well; has one child, a little girl, and she would take very moderate wages if the child was left with her; can do chamber-work and waiting, or general housework; will do all in her power to give satisfaction. Call at No. 120 Waverly-place, for two days.

WANTED—A HIGHLY COMPETENT GIRL wishes a situation as excellent meat and pastry cook; makes the best of soups, bread, cakes, pies, jellies and preserves; would assist to wash and iron; can give the best of City reference; is careful, attentive and obliging. Call from 10 till 2 o'clock, at No. 120 Waverly-place, for two days.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A MOST CAPABLE, faithful servant, highly recommended; is a very excellent cook and a most superior washer and ironer, perfectly trustworthy, obliging, and neat, and as economical girl in the kitchen; no objection to do housework for a small family. Apply at No. 58 Atlantic-st., Brooklyn.

WANTED—A COMPETENT SEAMSTRESS, who understands the cutting and fitting of ladies' dresses and children's clothing, in all their branches, and all kinds of family sewing. Will go out by the week; a permanent situation preferred. City references. Call at No. 353 East 10th-st., in the trimming store.

WANTED—A FIRST-RATE COOK WANTS A situation in a private family; has no objection to City or country; the best of reference from her last place. Also, a laundress. Call, for two days, at No. 163 Prince-st., corner of Thompson-st., Room 15.

WANTED—BY A VERY SUPERIOR YOUNG WOman, a situation as chambermaid and seamstress; can cut and fit, embroider, &c.; no objections to see to children; is willing and obliging and well recommended. Apply at No. 424 Broadway, up stairs.

WANTED—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG GIRL, a situation in a respectable private family as chambermaid and waitress; has the best of City reference from her last place; can be seen for three days at No. 109 East 13th-st., between 3d and 4th avs., Room No. 6.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A RESPECTABLE young woman as first-rate cook, washer and ironer, in a small, private family. Best of City reference given. Call at No. 178 12th-st., between 1st and 2d avs., first floor, front room.

WANTED—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTESTANT woman, a situation in a private family as first-rate cook; understands her business perfectly; best of reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 209 East 21st-st., between 1st and 2d avs., first floor.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A RESPECTABLE Protestant girl to do general housework; is a good plain cook, washer and ironer; best of reference given. Apply at No. 89 11th-st., in the rear.

WANTED—A SITUATION, IN THE COUNTRY, to do general housework, by an English woman; understands all kinds of baking, &c. Address L. G., Box No. 206 *Times* Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A YOUNG ENGlish woman as lady's maid and seamstress; is willing to make herself generally useful. Address E. C., No. 76 Columbia-st., New-York.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A RESPECTABLE Scotch person, as seamstress. Apply for two days at No. 136½ West 19th-st.

A MIDDLING AGED ENGLISH LADY, OF refinement and education, desires a situation to superintend a household, or teach young children English, or would make a suitable companion to an invalid lady. Apply at No. 10 Lafayette-place, in South 4th-st., between 6th and 7th sts., Williamsburgh, from 10 to 2.

GOOD FEMALE AND MALE FRENCH, German and other servants, at Nos. 13 and 14 Bible House, 8th-st., between 3d and 4th avs.; also, first-class French and other cooks. French, German and Italian languages spoken. A lady in attendance.

MALES.

WANTED—BY A STEADY, INDUSTRIOUS young man, fully competent for his duties in every particular; is an excellent fireman; understands waiting well; would take a porter's situation, or anything that might offer in a respectable boarding-house, hotel, or private family; could care a horse; has a recommend for three years from his last place. Apply at No. 378 6th av., or address Box No. 136 *Times* Office.

WANTED—BY A STEADY YOUNG MAN, A situation as waiter, porter or fireman; is willing to be generally useful; understands well the care of a horse; can drive; knows the City well; hasis recommendation of three years from his late employer. Apply at No. 378 6th-av., near 23d-st., or Box No. 117 *Times* Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS COACHMAN, BY an active, intelligent Protestant young man; he can take charge of garden, cows, &c., if required; no objection to the City or country. Has good, first-class references as to character. Address or call, from 10 till 3 o'clock, on S. TYRRELL, No. 133 West 16th-st., between 6th and 7th avs.

WANTED—BY A MAN AND HIS WIFE, SITUAtions together, in a private family, or respectable boarding house; the man as waiter; he understands waiting, carving, serving public or private parties, &c. The woman as professed cook; she understands her business in all its branches. Address C. H., No. 805 Broadway, corner 11th-st.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS GARDENER AND coachman, and laying out of new grounds; understands his business in both branches; will make himself generally useful, and can milk a cow; can be well recommended. Address, for one week, M. D., Box No. 305 *Times* Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS COACHMAN AND groom, by a steady, sober man, who understands the care of horses, harness and carriages; is a good driver; has lived five years in his last place in the City, and can give the best of reference. Address L. D., Box No. 191 *Times* Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION, BY A FIRST-CLASS private waiter, in a private family; can produce satisfactory reference from private service; is single. Address J. M. K., at W. H. A. Kerr's grocery store, No. 776 Broadway.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS WAITER IN A PRIvate family, by a young man, having five years' reference from his last place; no objection to the country. Address D. P., No. 88 West 18th-st., between 6th and 7th avs., front room, second floor, for three days.

UN FRANCAIS.—D'UNE FAMILLE RESPECTable, ayant reçu une bonne education, agé de 22 ans, et, possédant les meilleures recommandations, désire se placer chez une famille, (butler or waiter.) Il connaît parfaitement bien son service. S'adresser a FRENCH, Box No. 260 *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED.

WANTED—AN ACTIVE, INTELLIGENT BOY, who attends Sunday School, is wanted in the publishing office of a religious newspaper. Address Box No. 2,188 New-York Post-office.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY.

A RARE OPPORTUNITY.—LADIES' AND gentlemen's heavy gold hunting Watches and chatelaine Chains, by the best English and Swiss makers, for sale to pay advances at half their cost. Also, one diamond cross with 12 stones. Advances on diamonds watches, &c.

No. 170 Broadway, Room No. 23, up stairs.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

FOR SALE—A VERY SUPERIOR FAMILY Horse, 16½ hands high, dark brown, bob-tail, fast traveller, very kind and gentle everywhere, will stand without hitching; would be a very desirable horse for a family or a physician; has always been used as such; sold only for want of use. Give here a call at No. 273 BROWN & SMITH, Livery Stables, 120 East 32d-st.

DRY GOODS.

NOVELTIES, 1859.

GREAT SALE OF PRINTS.

NOS. 16 AND 18 CHAMBERS-ST., N. Y.

DEVLIN, ARMSTRONG & CO.

Are opening the largest assortment of Prints ever offered by them for sale.

THE WAMSUTTAS.

These Prints are unsurpassed by anything in the market in the price, and are perfectly fast colors. They also control the balance of

ENGLISH MERCERIES AND ROCKY GLENNS.

The Rocky Glenns are in new, neat and small figures, of excellent cloth, and superior to any low-priced print offered.

291 KELTY BROTHERS & LUM, 291
Are selling off their stock of CURTAIN MATERIALS At Reduced Prices, As they remove from their present location about May, 1860, ALL CUT GOODS MUST BE SOLD. 291 BROADWAY, 291 NEW-YORK.

500 DOUBLE-SKIRT SILK ROBES, Reduced from $25 to $20. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

500 RICH TWO-FLOUNCED SILK ROBES, Reduced from $25 to $20. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

200 RICH THREE-FLOUNCED SILK ROBES, Reduced from $30 to $18. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

800 RICH DRESS-PATTERNS SILK, Reduced from $15 to $12. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

50 PIECES RICH FRENCH MERINOS, Reduced from $1 to 62 cents. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

2,000 YARDS RICH PARIS DELAINES, (ALL WOOL.) Reduced from 5c. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per yard. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

15,000 YDS. RICH MUSLIN DE LAINES, (FRENCH.) Reduced from 2s. 6d. to 1s. per yard. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

5,000 YARDS OTTOMAN VELOURS, Reduced from $1 50 to $1. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

5 CASES "NEW-YORK MILLS" PRINTS, Reduced from 12 cents to 6¼ cents. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

500 FINE CASTOR BEAVER CLOAKS, Reduced from $12 to $8. CHAS. HEARD & CO., No. 201 Grand-st.

NEW CARPETS AT REDUCED PRICES.

Upwards of $100,000 in Carpets, at reduced prices. Goods sold in the retail department for cash, and at uniform prices.

Velvet Medallion Carpets, new patterns, $1 75 per yard.
Velvet Carpets, $1 38 to $1 60 per yard.
Tapestry Brussels Carpets, 2s. 2½c. to $1 per yard.
Brussels Carpets, (not Tapestry,) $1 12½ to $1 40 per yard.
Three-ply Carpets, $1 to $1 10 per yard.
Superfine Ingrain Carpets, all wool, 62c

DENTISTRY.

DR. J. ALLEN BROWN, 251 FIFTH-AVE., cor. 28th-st., has REMOVED from 5th-ave. to his new building. Office hours, 9 to 5.

DR. E. T. WILSON, 1,241 BROADWAY, cor. 32d-st., has REMOVED from 5th-ave. to his new building. Office hours, 9 to 5

LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE CIRCASSIAN AT ST. JOHNS.

Close of the Conference at Zurich—Three Treaties Signed.

DISCONTENT IN ITALY.

Reported Submission of Morocco to the Demands of Spain.

GENERAL AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

St. Johns, N. F., Thursday, Nov. 24.

The steamship *Circassian*, Capt. CAMPBELL, from Galway on Saturday, Nov. 12, arrived here at 11 o'clock, last night.

The steamship *North Briton*, from Quebec, arrived at Liverpool Nov. 11.

The steamer *Bremen*, from New-York, arrived at Southampton Nov. 13.

THE CONFERENCE OF ZURICH.

THE TREATIES SIGNED—ENGLAND AND THE CONGRESS.

The three treaties were finally signed at Zurich on the 10th, and the plenipotentiaries would all leave on the 11th. It was said that Austria had consented to pay 100,000,000 francs from France, instead of the 150,000,000, previously demanded.

The *Monitor*, in announcing the signature of the treaties, says that France and Austria agree to promote the meeting of a Congress.

Sir C. C. Lewis, at the Lord Mayor's banquet, said that no formal proposition had yet been made to England for a Congress; when one should be received, Ministers would deliberate on its acceptance, on the understanding that the Italians are not to be coerced.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Two war steamers and four gun-boats had left England for China.

FRANCE.

The Bank of France had lost nearly 10,000,000 francs in cash during the month.

The Paris Bourse was firm, the Rentes closing at 70f. 10c.

The *Constitutionnel* exhorts the Italians to moderation and patience.

ITALY.

Tuscany has followed the example of the other States of Central Italy, and conferred the regency on the Prince of Carignan.

The King of Sardinia, under pressure from France, refused to grant CARIGNAN permission to accept the Regency.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

Affairs between Spain and Morocco were unchanged, though it was reported that the Sultan of Morocco had empowered his brother to grant the demands of Spain.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The Calcutta mails of Oct. 8, and Hong Kong, of Sept. 20, had reached England.

The ratification of the American Treaty had produced no change in commercial affairs in China.

Mr. WARD, the American Minister, had gone to Japan.

The Russians had a large naval force at Jeddo, and it was feared that trouble would arise, owing to the murder of three Russians by the Japanese.

LATEST NEWS.

LIVERPOOL, Saturday, Nov. 12—P. M.

The Paris Bourse closed on Friday with unchanged prices.

The *Moniteur* has an article regretting the action of the Italians relative to the Regency.

The Moors have commenced attacking Ceuta.

POSTCRIPT—Half-past 4 A. M.

Arrival of the Vigo at this Port.

The screw-steamship *Vigo*, Capt. MCGUIGAN, which sailed from Liverpool at 10½ A. M., on the 9th inst., and from Queenstown on the following day, arrived here at 2½ o'clock this morning.

The news had been to some trifling extent anticipated by the *Circassian*, and the details are of interest.

The steamer *Indian*, for Portland, left Liverpool an hour in advance of the *Vigo*.

The Cunard steamer *Africa*, from New-York, arrived at Liverpool at 10:15 on the morning of the 6th inst.

The *Canada* not having touched at Queenstown till mid-day on the 7th inst., the news by this arrival is barely two days later than that received by the *Canada*.

THE ZURICH CONFERENCE.

The Plenipotentiaries had held frequent conferences, and an announcement that their labors had terminated with the signing of the various treaties was looked for at any moment.

The Paris telegram of the 7th, to the London *Morning Post*, says: "The three treaties are drawn up, but at the moment of signing them a question was raised by the Austrian Plenipotentiaries which rendered references necessary. The Congress will follow very closely upon the Conferences. It will probably be held at Paris."

A Zurich dispatch of the 7th says that in consequence of a fresh incident having occurred in the settlement of the financial question, the signing of the treaties had been postponed for several days. A still later dispatch (8th) explains that the signature has been delayed by Austria claiming payment of the forty millions of florins due by France on account of Piedmont in Conventions munss, instead of the new Austrian currency.

THE PROJECTED CONGRESS.

It is now asserted that the statement that England and France had settled the basis of the proposed Congress, is at least premature.

A Berlin dispatch of the 3th says it was reported there, on reliable authority, that at the interview held at Breslau the Emperor of Russia and the Prince Regent of Prussia determined not to consent to a revision of the treaties of 1815, nor to take part in any Congress in which England would not be represented—the last resolution being proposed by Prussia.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The weather continued very stormy, and severe gales had again proved most disastrous to shipping off the coasts. Many vessels, with their entire crews, had been lost, and the mail-packet service with the Continent had been greatly impeded. The American ship *William Penn*, from Liverpool for Philadelphia, put into Falmouth on the 6th, leaky and with loss of sails, &c. Fears had been entertained for the ship *St. Nicholas*, bound from Havre for New-York, as nothing was heard of her for several days after she had been seen in the channel putting back dismasted. On the 5th, however, she put into Portland.

The British ship *Nelson*, from Mauritius, with the cargo of seeds and jute, which was transferred to her from the American ship *John Quincy Adams*, (condemned,) was lost off the Isle of Wight. Crew saved.

A Bristol pilot, who was on Lundy Island on the 3d of November, reports six large ships wrecked there during the previous gales. Names unknown. The crews all perished. The Island was covered with wrecks.

The *British ship Ringdove*, from Ardrossan for Boston, was abandoned at sea on the 15th of October. Crew saved and landed at Queenstown.

The Board of Trade had directed an official inquiry into the loss of the *Royal Charter*. A complete list of the passengers by that ill-fated vessel had been received by mail from Australia.

The ship *Tyrol*, bound from Sulina to Liverpool, was lost on a sand-bank at the entrance of the Mersey, during the night of the 7th, and all on board—supposed to have numbered from 20 to 30 persons, including a pilot—were drowned.

An influential deputation had waited upon Lord *John Russell* for the purpose of presenting a memorial relative to the case of the boy MORTARA. Lord John, in his reply, denounced the offence which had been committed, but in view of the difficulties which always surrounded interference with the laws of foreign nations, he considered that it would be useless for the British Government to make any representations to the Papal authorities on the subject. He would, however, submit the statements of the deputation before his colleagues in the Cabinet.

The Prince and Princess FREDERICK WILLIAM, of Prussia, had arrived in England on a visit to Queen Victoria.

The London *Times* editorially criticises the Great Eastern, and throws great doubts on her being able to fulfill all that has been promised for her. The vessel is pronounced defective in propelling power.

The official correspondence between England and Spain is published in the London Gazette. Spain declares that she will not continue to hold Tangiers or any part of the Morocco Coast that will give her a superiority that would be dangerous to the navigation of the Straits, after a treaty of peace is signed.

FRANCE.

Preparation in France for the Chinese expedition continue with great activity. One authority says that 6,000 men will probably take their departure during the last fortnight in December. It is understood that the French and English Governments, which for a moment differed in opinion as to the scale of the joint expedition to China, are now in complete accord, and that the general military basis of their coöperation has been agreed on.

A European force, larger than any that has yet been seen in China, and equal to any service that may be required of it, will appear in the Pei-ho in the Spring.

A French legitimist journal at Angers had received a warning for having endeavored, by insulting allusions, to throw suspicion upon the expressed intentions of the Emperor in regard to the Pope.

It is re-asserted that the French forces on the Morocco frontiers were being decimated by Cholera. Gen. UZEUF and a Col. of ZOUAVES are reported dead, making in all six superior officers who have fallen victims to the disease.

The Paris Flour market was quiet but steady. Wheat also had undergone no change. Old wines were advancing in price in all the French markets. Spirits were stationary and had apparently reached their highest point.

The Paris Bourse was firm, and Rentes had advanced to 70.5, closing steady.

The Emperor arrived at Paris on the 5th from Compiegne, and visited the Grand Duchess Maria of Russia.

ITALY.

The Assemblies of the revolutionized States of Central Italy had all been convened. Some important step was in contemplation. According to one report, the Regency of King VICTOR EMANUEL himself will be proposed, and the Assemblies will ask him for direct assistance. On other authority, the regency will be conferred on Prince CARIGNAN.

The substance of the reply of King VICTOR EMANUEL to the Emperor's letter is reported to be to this effect: That if the Emperor of the French is bound by the convention of Villafranca, the King of Sardinia is also bound by the wishes of his people.

The *Dritto* of Turin announces that the greater part of the Piedmontese loan had been subscribed for by the first banking houses of Turin, Genoa, Parma, Modena, Leghorn, Florence and Bologna. The trading community of Milan had subscribed 26,000,000 francs.

The correspondent of the *Times* in Tuscany insists that it is the obvious combined drift of France and Austria absolutely and completely to destroy the real strength and influence of the *prestige* of Piedmont and her King, and thus to give the death-blow to the national aspirations of Italy.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Post* says it was rumored that the Papal Government had requested France to occupy with French troops those portions of the Roman States which have thrown off the temporal authority of Pope Pius IX.

LATEST.

Dispatches from Bologna, Parma and Modena, dated the 7th inst., state that the National Assemblies, in session at those places, had each and all voted the Regency of Prince CARIGNAN, and had invested him with full powers. A similar proposition was pending in the Tuscan Legislature, and was expected to be adopted the day the steamer sailed.

One version of VICTOR EMANUEL'S response to the Emperor NAPOLEON'S letter, is that he tells the Emperor he cannot adhere in the Congress to the policy of France, touching the restoration of the deposed dynasties, but he will promise not to give any armed aid to Central Italy, as long as there is no military intervention there by any other power.

SPAIN.

There is a vague report that a mutiny has broken out among the Spanish troops collected at Algesiras, but it lacks confirmation.

An official decree appoints General O'DONNELL Commander-in-chief of the expedition to Morocco; and a Madrid dispatch of the 7th says that he would positively leave there that evening, and that offensive operations would commence immediately.

It is stated that a Moorish gunboat was captured by a Spanish steamer at the mouth of the river Tetuan, after a sharp engagement.

There was an expectation that both Spain and Portugal would admit corn, duty free.

GERMANY.

The Chamber of Deputies of Cassel had, by a vote of 38 to 5, passed a resolution in favor of the reëstablishment of the Constitution of 1631, but the Elector refused to receive the address upon the subject. It was supposed that the Chamber would then pass a resolution to forward an address to the Federal Diet.

INDIA.

The Bombay mails of October 12th, had reached England, but the papers and correspondence furnish little additional news of interest.

The Expedition from Bombay against the piratical Waghers had been successful. The forts and island of Beyt were stormed on the 7th of October. The enemy made a stout resistance. The British loss was 2 officers and 23 men killed and 2 officers and 35 men wounded.

The 67th regiment had quitted Calcutta for Hong Kong.

Commercial news anticipated by telegraph.

AUSTRALIA.

The Melbourne mail, of September 17, had arrived in England, but there is little news of importance additional to that anticipated by telegraph. The news of the peace had reached Australia, but there was little confidence in its continuance, and measures for the defence of the colony, already commenced, were to be carried out. Six vessels of war, varying from 6 to 26 guns, are to be stationed in the various ports, and forts, batteries, and martello towers are to be erected at various points. Large supplies of arms, Armstrong guns, &c., had been ordered from England.

Stocks of imported goods were accumulating, and sales were extremely dull.

The shipments of gold to date, were about 60,000 ounces short of the same period last year.

Passengers.

In steamship Vigo, from Liverpool—Messrs. R. P. Shaw, Passfield, and 2 ladies, Thomas Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Bent, Miss and Master Bent, Mr. and Mrs. Bentzand infant, Miss Cousens, Mrs. Cumming, Mrs. E. Sward, Mrs. H. K. Foster, Miss H. Anderson, Mr. J. Smith and son, John Marsden, Mrs. Orme, Mr. J. Gray, Mr. W. Alexander, R. Y. Hewitt, Rev. W. Hemming, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and child, Mrs. Ramsay, H. W. Bisbrey, J. Phillips, Rev. C. W. Adams, Mr. Mrs. Wrightman, Miss Lee—and 100 in the steerage.

Commercial News by the Circassian.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

The *Brokers' Circular* reports the sales of the week at 49,000 bales, of which 2,000 were taken by speculators and 3,000 by exporters. The market had a declining tendency and prices were partially ¼d. lower. The sales of Friday were 8,000 bales, of which 1,000 were taken by speculators and exporters. the market closing quiet, at the following authorized quotations:

Fair Orleans	7⅞d.	Middling Mobile	7¼d.
Middling Orleans	7¾d.	Fair Uplands	7¾d.
Fair Mobile	7¼d.	Middling Uplands	6¾d.

The stock in port was estimated at 430,000 bales, of which 295,000 were American.

Some authorities say that prices were easier, but not quotably changed.

STATE OF TRADE.

The advices from Manchester are favorable. The market was firm and prices closed with an advancing tendency.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS MARKET.

The Liverpool *Breadstuffs market* was firm, and all qualities were slightly higher. RICHARDSON, SPENCE & Co. quote FLOUR quiet and holders demanding an advance of 1s. WHEAT firm, and 4d.@5d. higher. CORN buoyant and advanced 1s.@1s. 6d. ₱ quarter.

LIVERPOOL PROVISION MARKET.

The Liverpool PROVISION market was dull. BEEF was heavy for old, and holders were pressing their stocks on the market at a reduction. PORK quiet but firmer for common. BACON steady, and new wanted. LARD steady at 57s.@58s. TALLOW—Prices easier but quotations unchanged; Butchers' 56s. 6d.@59s.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.

The *Brokers' Circular* quotes POT ASHES steady at 27s. 6d.; Pearls steady at 27s. 9d. SUGAR quiet. COFFEE dull. RICE firm; ordinary Carolina, 21s. BARK dull; Philadelphia, 6s. 6d.@12s. FISH OILS—An average business at unchanged rates. CAM OIL, £30. LINSEED OIL steady at 27s. 6d.@28s. 3d. RESIN steady; Common, 4s. 2d. SPIRITS TURPENTINE steady at 34s. TEA declined 1d.@1½d.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

The London MONEY market was unchanged with a good demand.

CONSOLS closed on the 11th at 96¼@96⅝ for money, and 96⅛@96¼ for account.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

The market for American Stocks was dull, but rates were unchanged.

HAVRE MARKET.

The sales of Cotton in the Havre market for the week were 11,000 bales, besides large sales to arrive. Prices 10@5 francs higher. Stock 56,000 bales. New-Orleans ords ordinaire, 112 francs; do. Bas, 109 francs.

LATEST MARKETS.

[By Telegraph to Galway.]

LIVERPOOL, Saturday, Nov. 12—P. M.

The sales of Cotton to-day are 7,000 bales. The market closes dull and unchanged.

BREADSTUFFS unchanged and steady.

PROVISIONS dull.

PRODUCE unchanged.

LONDON, Saturday, Nov. 12—noon.

Consols, 96⅛@96¾ for account.

Baring's Circular quotes: BREADSTUFFS tending upwards; INDIGO dull at 2s 10d. for both rails and bars; SUGAR steady; COFFEE steady; RUM heavy; TEA declined 1d.@1s 6d.; common CONGOU, 1s. 9½d. SPIRITS TURPENTINE dull at 34s. 6d.@35s. TALLOW, 56s. 6d. The WOOL sales are progressing, and prices are generally ¾d.@1d. higher.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

The Victoria Bridge.

PASSAGE OF THE FIRST RAILROAD TRAIN.

MONTREAL, Thursday, Nov. 24.

The first train, consisting of engines and a single car, having on board about fifty persons, ran over the Victoria Bridge this afternoon. The time occupied on the passage was about twelve and a half minutes. Among the passengers were Messrs. CATTER, A. M. RESS, Chief Engineer of Bridge, and Mr. BLACKWELL, Managing Director, and several other Directors of the Grand Trunk Railroad. Two of the tubes are not quite finished, but the bridge is expected to be fully completed and thrown open to the public and for traffic, by the middle of December.

Fugitive Slave Case in Indiana.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Thursday, Nov. 24.

A descent was made to-day on the premises of ALFRED COX, a colored man in this city, to arrest a fugitive slave supposed to be concealed there. The slave was not found, but a large number of pikes were discovered in the cellar. COX has been seen frequently in consultation with a man by the name of BROWN. Neither has been arrested.

The Wreck of the Indian.

SACKVILLE, Thursday, Nov. 24—7:30 P. M.

Nothing further has been heard yet from the wreck of the *Indian*. Admiral Sir HOUSTON STEWART has kindly given the Agent of the Associated Press at Halifax a passage in the war-steamer *Gladiator* to the scene of the disaster.

Markets by Telegraph.

MOBILE, Wednesday, Nov. 23.

COTTON—Sales to-day 4,000 bales, the market closing with an advancing tendency; Middling firm at 10¾c.

THE SOUTHERN EXCITEMENT.

LAST TUESDAY IN CHARLESTOWN.

A DAY OF EXCITEMENT AND PERIL.

Correspondence of the Baltimore American.

CHARLESTOWN, Wednesday, Nov. 23.

Yesterday was another bustling day in this village, now the centre of excitement, and although no actual or probable demonstration was made against the peace, the dignity, and the honor of the glorious old Commonwealth, yet there were men enough to have repelled an assault of the most formidable character.

Gov. WISE, accompanied by his staff, a good-looking but inexperienced body of officers, left in the morning train for Harper's Ferry, where he remained until to-day. Before leaving, he made known the contents of a dispatch received by him from Gov. PACKER, of Pennsylvania, in which that official tendered the services of 10,000 men, and also offering to station a guard along the dividing line between the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Gov. WISE, in his reply, thanked him for the kind offer of help, but is still confident that Virginia will be able to maintain her honor in any emergency.

The scene at the depot on the departure of the Governor and his staff, was quite exciting, a large number of military and citizens being in attendance. Besides the Governor and his staff, a number of prominent gentlemen took the cars, amongst them Senator MASON, Hon. C. J. FAULKNER, Hon. DANIEL C. DEJARNETTE, Member of Congress elect from the Richmond District, and Hon. A. R. BOTELER.

Nothing of interest transpired during the morning. Acting-Col. WYATT M. ELLIOTT visited each company belonging to the First Regiment, and read them the rules governing officers and soldiers in the United States army, informing them at the same time he would exact strict obedience to them. He also addressed them a few appropriate remarks, telling them the eye of the country was upon them, and that it was at least possible they might have to undergo arduous and perilous duty. He felt sure that the First Regiment would do honor to itself and Virginia, and if our venerated old Commonwealth should be invaded, they would wipe out the stain attempted to be placed upon them.

The remainder of the day until four o'clock in the afternoon was occupied by the soldiers in various amusements. Some would form a group and rehearse tragedy from ancient and modern dramatists; others would add to their own and the citizens' pleasure by singing choice musical selections in a manner infinitely amusing, if not on scientific musical principles. A gaping amateur would gather around the wagon of the daguerreotype man, and have their "phizes" taken for the dear ones they had left behind them. Another party formed a regular cotillion in their barracks, and had a gay time generally. All seemed gratified that permission had been granted them to stay, and appeared perfectly at home. At four o'clock a dress parade of the First Regiment took place, much to the gratification of the citizens, after which they were dismissed and wandered about in various directions, none seeming to apprehend an attack.

Sentinels were posted at 6 o'clock, after which time it is impossible to pass the outposts without the countersign. Gov. WISE, whilst on his way out to Mr. HUNTER'S, on Monday night, was hailed, and had to remain with the sentinel some time before he could pass, although the man knew him well. A great many citizens grumble at this, as they argue, needless precaution, but the men only obey orders.

About 9 o'clock last night an alarm was sounded through the streets, the sentinel on one of the outposts having fired his gun. Military orders were sounded from one end of the town to the other, and the panic among women and children, and indeed among some of the men, whose nervous systems have become much disordered by late events, was very great, and window shutters were closed and lights extinguished in a shorter space of time than is usually the case among our people. The cavalry companies, armed with old rusty swords, which looked as if they had not been polished for centuries, formed in the western section of the town, and really frightened a great many people by their unearthly yells. On inquiry as to the cause of such consternation, I was informed by one gentleman that the sentinel had mistaken a post for an enemy, while another friend informed me that it was a cow quietly grazing by the roadside that had excited the suspicions of the vigilant sentinel. The cow not coming to a halt, vigilant sentinel blazed away, but did not hurt the cow much.

The fears of our people having been once more quieted, a large number sought their homes and embraced that "sweet restorer, balmy sleep," which has been much interrupted for a few nights. But they were again aroused about 2 o'clock in the morning by the firing of guns. A sentinel from the outskirts of the town rushed in and reported he had been shot at three times by the same number of men, and that, too, after giving them the command to halt. Scouts were immediately sent out, but nothing in the shape of a man could be found where reported. Whether it was really three men or three bleats the sentinel saw will probably be determined to-day.

These constant alarms and the lack of discipline among the military, are beginning to be regarded as serious evils, and it is to be hoped that measures will be taken to prevent them in future.

THE PANIC IN THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES.

A NEW VOLUNTEER COMPANY FORMING—DISGUST AT PATROL DUTY—NEW ALARMS—DISAPPOINTMENT AT SOUTHERN INDIFFERENCE.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

PARKERSBURG, Va., Tuesday, Nov. 22, 1859.

The call of Gov. WISE upon troops here for the protection of Charlestown, is spoken of in terms of approbation by many, while others consider it to have been altogether unnecessary, as it will be, unless it may give them a little active exercise, by way of preparing them for the day of invasion, and to take their stand in *defence of Southern Rights*. Not feeling sufficiently safe with the military forces now left in the city, a movement has suddenly been made for the enrollment of a new Volunteer Company. Twenty-three men have subscribed their names, and the prospect is that thirty or forty more will swell the number to a very respectable organization. They intend to *arm themselves with SHARP'S rifles*, although many timid citizens question the policy of allowing amateur *soldiers to use such instruments*. While the citizens generally approve of organizing a stronger volunteer military force, they deprecate the idea of being subjected to patrol duty themselves.

The fears of the people have been greatly excited. Frightened as they were, when the first rumor of the advance of an invading force reached them, the departure of the volunteer companies only excited them still more; and when fathers, husbands and brothers were seen patroling the streets, under arms, at all hours of night and day, the panic rose to a still greater height. The few who had not lost their cool judgment, condemned such a public display, as being too well calculated to feed excitement, which ought, on the contrary, to be allayed by all possible means. The history of NAT. TURNER'S famous insurrection at Southampton, which is not far from this city, is repeated with all its bloody details, as if the occurrence had only taken place a few months ago. So near the scene of NAT'S brief, but awful career, the people are prepared to believe and fear anything that comes to them about the intentions of rescuers, however absurd it may be.

The announcement that a portion of the troops which went from here to Charleston have been ordered to return has been received very gladly. The patrolmen are specially anxious for the volunteers' return, in order that they may be relieved from their unpleasant duties. Two large field-pieces have been kept in readiness for service since Sunday should they be needed. The only alarm of any moment occurred a night or two ago, when sheet iron thrown into the river were thrown into consternation by voices and noises which created alarming. Upon making investigation, it was ascertained that all the noise was nothing more than the alacrity and boisterousness of two darkies who had imbibed a little too much cheap whisky in the Pennsylvania suburb.

As soon as any of these false alarms pass away, the dispassionate portion of the people feel mortified that such a state of things should exist. They are conscious that there must be a weakness somewhere, else the public mind would not yield so foolishly. Already they are anxious to have the parrot-nose dismissed, and many wish that Old BROWN was hung, and the uneasy state of excitement ended. There is much disappointment at the absence of sympathy in mind quarters where it was expected that it would exist. The people complain bitterly of the indifference manifested with reference to their distress by the conservative Press of the North. They looked toward the large cities in the Free States for comfort, and the leading paper here, the *Express*, names only three papers in all New-York that have reproved the attempt to incite servile insurrection in Virginia, and to overthrow the National Government. The result of the late elections in the Northern States has also been far from pleasing. They declare that that they cannot understand the sentiment which seems to exist at the North. Apparently it is expressive of a steady, unbroken antagonism towards the institution which is inseparably interwoven with their social system. They are astounded that the mass of merchants and professional men and manufacturers do not come out unequivocally and denounce such men as BROWN, BENDER, GIDDINGS and others. They are unwilling, even in spite of the sympathy expressed for the convicts at Charlestown, to believe that a majority of Northerners indorse the acts, or follow the incendiary teachings of these men. With feelings more of sorrow than of anger, some assert that in time to come the conservatives of the Free States will regret that they did not take efficient measures to put down the Anti-Slavery sentiment; for, say they, it will inevitably lead to a dissolution of the Union, certainly within a year.

Just at the present exciting time one half of the population here would ask for disunion. Others say "Not yet, we'll see this thing through first, and then if we can't make them respect our rights, we'll go in for a Southern Confederacy."

A great many say HOUSTON ought never to have been tried, but that the whole party should have been shot down, as was THOMPSON, without trial or jury. Such a course, it is thought, would have prevented the alarm and consternation which has followed. Others think the papers ought not to have published so many particulars, and such inflammatory articles on the subject, many of which are read not only by the whites, but by the blacks, free and slaves, upon whom they cannot possibly have any good effect. Among all classes and conditions the subject is discussed, although efforts are made to keep the details, as much as possible, from the slaves. Even those who admired BROWN'S brave qualities at first, and who would gladly have favored a commutation of the death sentence, now feel that it is expedient that the whole party should die. They think that nothing less than an ignominious death can satisfy the extremists, or put a check upon Abolitionism. SYCAMORE.

INSURRECTION THREATENED IN KENTUCKY.

THE CAPITAL OF THE STATE IN DANGER.

The Louisville *Courier* of Tuesday says that the citizens of Frankfort, the capital of the State, and Versailles, in Woodford County, have been excited for some days, but by no means alarmed, at a report of a threatened rising of the negroes in those counties.

On Saturday, a dispatch from Harper's Ferry, Va., advised the Mayor of Frankfort that the negroes, at the instigation of some white scoundrels, designed an attack on that city and Versailles; and when these places fell, it was their intention to devastate the country around.

The information was obtained through an intercepted letter from an Abolitionist named DAY, addressed to OSSAWATOMIE BROWN. The intelligence was so direct and of such an alarming character, that Mr. HUNTER, the prosecuting attorney at Charlestown, Va., deemed it his duty to advise the authorities in Frankfort as above.

Immediately on its reception the Mayor of Frankfort called the Trustees together, to devise means to avert such a calamity. Precautionary measures were taken in that city and also in Versailles, by appointing an extra police force and patrols for each district in the counties. The new military company organized last week in Versailles, were ready to respond with alacrity at the first sound of the tocsin of war.

This Abolitionist DAY has been connected with the notorious DELIA WEBSTER, who was once in the Kentucky penitentiary for running off negroes. He was driven away from Trimble County some years ago for his negro stealing propensities. If he is caught on this side of the river again we reckon he will be hung. He deserves it.

MORE REVELATIONS THREATENED.

HOW THE INSURRECTION ORIGINATED IN KANSAS.

The following communication, which appears in the Lawrence (Kansas) *Herald of Freedom*, threatens further developments of the John Brown plot:

By your statements made in an editorial in March last, and, subsequently, in a late leader, it appears that "the whole plan of an insurrection was developed to you in the summer of 1856, while you were held at Lecompton for treason." Your extract from Redpath's "Roving Editor" shows that you were better posted than your enemies gave you credit for; and the late developments at Harper's Ferry has revealed that portion of the plot before in doubt. You have shown that Conway, Cook, Realf, Redpath, and that whole class of politicians acted with and seemed to indorse each other.

And, then, in regard to those boxes. The facts in in relation to them have come into my possession in such a way that I cannot be as explicit as I desire, but the time may not be distant when I can be. There *certainly* is something pertaining to them which the public have a right to have explained.

Now I undertake to say that Mr. CONWAY has been in correspondence with old JOHN BROWN since he has been in the East; yea, more, that he has sent him money within the past few months, and that in all probability the money thus advanced has been used to pay for those *pikes* bought to arm the negroes with, and to get up that servile insurrection. Mr. CONWAY intimates that those "notes," left by "old JOHN BROWN," and which he was so kind as to deposit in his safe, were the property of the Kansas Relief Committee. Of course, then, old JOHN BROWN, on the Kennedy farm in Virginia, had nothing to do with that fund; and though Mr. CONWAY had collected payment on those notes, BROWN would have been the last person to whom the money would have been sent.

There are other matters which I shall reserve for a future letter, unless Mr. C.'s next answer is *fully* satisfactory, which I sincerely hope *will* be the case; in the meantime, I wish him to come forward like a frank, open gentleman, as I have always understood him to be, and tell the *whole* truth. There is no necessity for evasion or concealment. Either he *is* or he is not in any way implicated in that affair. If implicated, he cannot ask any favor of those of us who are friends of the American Union, or who favor States Rights, and are opposed to any interference in the affairs of a neighboring State, and who believe we should "remove the beam from our own eyes before we attempt to remove a mote from a neighbor's." If, on the contrary, Mr. C. has no complicity with Old JOHN BROWN, let him explain how he chanced to be in the counsels of the disunionists of Kansas, a member of their "secret oath-bound society," of which RAPPAN states he was one; why he joined hands with those who were in favor of keeping alive our Kansas contest, and throughout our protracted struggle has always been on the wrong side of the question.

Since you, Mr. BROWN, have more than half yielded the point to Mr. CONWAY, perhaps you can help him out of the dilemma, and, if so, you will oblige an active Kansas Republican, and place under many obligation, your friend, ARGUS.

THE AFRICAN COAST.

Our Squadron at the Cape Verde Islands—List of the Ships—Anticipated Efficiency of the Coast Guard.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

PORTO GRANDE, CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, Saturday, Oct. 1, 1859.

The pleasant harbor of Porto Grande has lately been honored with the presence of the different vessels of the African Squadron, which, reckoning the new steamers, and the officers attached to them, is supposed to be a great enlargement of our naval forces on the coast of Africa.

The sloop-of-war *Constellation*, bearing the broad pennant of Flag-Officer WM. INMAN, is certainly a pride to our navy, as everywhere she goes she crowns the water. Her sailing qualities have greatly improved, on account of the heavy metal being taken off her spar-deck, and she is said to have made one of the quickest passages ever accomplished to the Azores.

Next to her we have had the steam-frigate *San Jacinto* in our port. She only remained here to receive a fresh supply of coal and proceeded to Porto Praya.

The United States steamer *Sumpter*, Commander JAMES F. ARMSTRONG, which is another one of the new squadron, arrived here on the 22d September. She left New-York on the 5th September, together with another vessel of the same class, the United States steamer *Mystic*, but has made the quickest passage, and arrived three days before the *Mystic*.

The United States steamer *Mystic*, Lieut. commanding WILLIAM E. LEDYE, arrived on the 23th September, also from New-York. Both these vessels have proved to be pretty good sea-boats, and arrived here in a very good condition. They are both taking in coals from our depôt, and will afterwards proceed down the coast.

We expect shortly the *Moticas*, from Portsmouth, which vessel will be the last of the squadron under command of Flag-officer INMAN.

The squadron will consist of the following vessels:

Flag-ship *Constellation*.

Sloops-of-war *Portsmouth*, *Marion*, *Vincennes*,

Steamers *San Jacinto*, *Mohican*, *Sumpter* and *Mystic*.

This is the largest squadron which has been on the coast of Africa, and more watchfulness will be displayed through it. The slave trade will stand a poor chance, as the little steamers *Sumpter* and *Mystic* will be everywhere to hunt them up and stop the odious traffic in human flesh.

Evacuation Day.

MILITARY PARADE AND REVIEW BY THE GOVERNOR.

An unusually fine Military parade is promised as a part of the celebration of to-day (Evacuation Day.) The First Division of the New-York State Militia is ordered out, and the Governor has accepted an invitation to review the troops.

The following orders have been issued:

FIRST DIVISION NEW-YORK STATE MILITIA.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 7.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 24, 1859.

The Division will parade on Friday, the 25th of November instant, to celebrate the Anniversary of the Evacuation of the City of New-York by the British Army, on the 25th of November, 1783.

The Division line will be formed on Fourteenth-street, right on Broadway, at 12 o'clock, A. M., precisely, and will be reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief, at 12½ o'clock.

The Marching Salute will be received in front of the City Hall, at 1½ o'clock.

Brig.-Gen. YATES will direct a national salute to be fired from the Battery at noon, by a detachment from the Second Brigade, and the salute to the Commander-in-Chief in Union-square, upon his arrival on the ground.

The Quartermaster-General will issue ammunition for the salutes, on requisitions from the proper officers.

Fourteenth-street is hereby designated as the parade-ground of the Division, on the 25th inst., from 11 o'clock A. M. until the Division shall have left the ground.

By order of

CHAS. W. SANDFORD, Maj.-Gen. Com'g.

HENRY C. WESTERVELT, Division Inspector.

HEAD-QUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, NEW-YORK STATE MILITIA.

General Orders, No. 12.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 22, 1859.

The above General Order, No. 7, is hereby promulgated, and in compliance therewith the several regiments of this Brigade will parade, in full uniform, on Friday, the 25th inst.

The Brigade Staff will assemble at the Quarters of the Brigade-General, at 11 A. M.

By order of Brig.-Gen. CHAS. E. SPENCER.

C. H. D. SMITH, Brigade Major and Inspector.

J. J. VAN NESS, Aid-de-Camp.

The following has been received from the Adjutant-General:

The Commander-in-Chief having accepted an invitation to review the troops of the First Division on Friday the 25th inst., the officers of his staff will assemble at his house (No. 36 Le Fayette-place, New-York) at 11½ o'clock A. M., of that day, mounted and in full uniform, for the purpose of accompanying him on that occasion. FREDERICK TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General.

During the day the City Horse Guards will be presented with a stand of colors, from Gen. PAEZ, at the City Hall. The Horse Guards were prominent in the escort to Gen. PAEZ on the occasion of his return to Venezuela; and it is as a token of his appreciation of their disinterested courtesy that he will present the colors. Should THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER have returned from Washington in time, it is expected that he will receive the colors for the Guard.

The Federal Treasury.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPT. 30, 1859, EXCLUSIVE OF TRUST FUNDS.

RECEIPTS.

From Customs		$15,947,670 02
From sales of Public Lands		476,244 62
From miscellaneous and incidental sources		379,650 61
From Treasury Notes issued per act of Dec. 23, 1857		3,511,300 00
From Loan of June 14, 1858		219,000 00
Total		$20,513,865 25

EXPENDITURES.

Civil, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous		$4,748,130 80
Interior (Pensions and Indian)		1,730,176 11
War		5,473,949 10
Navy		3,383,551 99
Redemption of Bounty land stock	200 00	
Payment to creditors of Texas	941 54	
Payment of Treasury notes issued per act of 23d December, 1857	4,414,500 00	
Interest on public debt, including Treasury notes	248,925 22	
		4,664,566 76

P. BIGGER, Register.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, Nov. 16, 1859.

The Turf.

UNION COURSE, L. I.—Thursday, Nov. 24.—Purse, $1,500; mile heats; best 3 in 5, in harness.

J. MCMANN, b. m. *Flora Temple*	2 1 1 1
D. PIDGER, b. s. *Ethan Allen*	1 2 2 2

Time—2:27, 2:27½, 2:28, 2:29.

There were about 2,000 persons on the track. *Flora Temple* had the call in betting at the rate of $100 to $40. *Ethan* won the first heat. *Flora* had not recovered from her hard race with *Patchin* on Monday last, and seemed stiff, but won the trot easily, nevertheless.

Two or three years ago, some muskrats burrowed through the banks of the canal at Black Rock, thus producing a flood which swept away a saw-mill and its stock of logs. The owner of the property sued the State and has recovered $3,500 damages.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FOR EUROPE.

From	Date.	Leave	For.
Hungarian	Nov. 26	Portland	Liverpool.
New-York	Nov. 30	New-York	Bremen.
Canada	Nov. 30	Boston	Liverpool.
John Bell	Dec. 3	New-York	Glasgow.
Vigo	Dec. 3	New-York	Liverpool.

FROM EUROPE.

John Bell	Nov. 3	Glasgow	New-York
City of Washington	Nov. 9	Liverpool	New-York
Africa	Nov. 12	Liverpool	New-York
Circassian	Nov. 13	Galway	New-York
City of Manch'ter	Nov. 16	Glasgow	New-York
Niagara	Nov. 19	Liverpool	Boston.
Ocean Queen	Nov. 23	Southampton	New-York

FOR THE WEST INDIES, &C.

De Soto	Nov. 28	New-York	Havana.
Karnak	Dec. 9	New-York	Nas. & Ha.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.... 6 55 | Sun sets.... 4 36 | Moon sets... 5 14

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook. 8 14 | Gov. Island. 9 03 | Hell Gate.... 10 25

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....THURSDAY, Nov.